MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 DECEMBER 1981

Israel

Strategic Cooperation Debate -- According to Jerusalem radio reports, the Alignment, Shinuy, Hadash and Tehiya factions submitted motions of no-confidence in the government in the wake of the signing of the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation. The radio cited the Shinuy faction's motion as asserting that the government had not allowed the Knesset to study the memorandum and that the "hasty" signing may present Israel with a fait accompli of far-reaching security implications. The radio later reported that the High Court of Justice rejected an appeal by the Alignment faction against the timing of the Knesset debate on the motions. The radio had earlier noted that the Alignment faction opposed the Knesset speaker's decision to hold the debate at 1700 on 2 December rather than at the usual time of 1100, and to allow 10 hours of debate before the vote. The Alignment views these moves as attempts to postpone the no-confidence vote in order to enable ministers abroad to return to Israel and ensure a government majority, the radio said.

In an interview in Washington with Jersualem television, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon maintained that the U.S.-Israeli agreement "undoubtedly" helps Israel and is meant to offer an answer to the chief danger to Israel: the danger of Soviet expansionism. During an earlier interview with Jerusalem radio, Sharon asserted that he had discussed the memorandum "extensively" with the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee both in September and within the past few days.

According to the Jerusalem POST, Alignment MK and former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin claimed that the U.S. undertaking in the memorandum of understanding is "not worth the paper it is written on" because of U.S. constitutional restrictions on the use of U.S. troops. Rabin also claimed that Israel is now obligated to help U.S. troops operating against Soviet troops in the Middle East, an obligation which no previous Israeli Government had undertaken or considered.

Reviewing the morning press editorials, Jerusalem radio noted HA'ARETZ' opinion that although the manner in which the government agreed to the signing of the memorandum deserves sharp condemnation, the value of the memorandum itself should not be denigrated, because it symbolizes U.S. good will toward Israel and the deepening of friendly ties. According to the radio, DAVAR deplored the fact that a "far-reaching" step was decided on by a tiny group of people and stated that such a method is unacceptable in a democratic country. This alone, DAVAR added, justifies an expression of no confidence.

Gaza Civilian Administration -- Jerusalem television reported that the civilian administration began functioning in the Gaza Strip under Brig Gen Yosef Luntz. Jerusalem radio later reported that a general strike began in Gaza to protest the new administration.

Egypt - Israel

Cairo radio reported that Egypt agreed to the postponement until 21 December of talks by the autonomy negotiations working teams. The talks had originally been scheduled to begin today.

Syria

Damascus radio reported the arrival of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib; it later said he met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Citing a Syrian Foreign Ministry source, Monte Carlo radio reported that Khaddam told Habib that the only change since Habib's last visit to the region is the fact that Washington and Tel Aviv have signed a memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation, which was disqualified the United States as a mediator in any Arab-Israeli dispute.

SANA reported a commentary in AL-BA'TH which linked Habib's visit with "fatal explosions" in Lebanon and the coordination of Muslim Brotherhood activities with elements in Lebanon and "criminal organs" outside Syria. The paper asserted that Habib had barely set foot in Beirut when action was being taken "according to prior instructions." A Damascus radio report, citing AFP, said the Muslim Brotherhood claimed responsibility for a 29 November bomb explosion in Damascus which killed many innocent civilians.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio broadcast a joint staff communique which asserted that Iranian forces consolidated the positions recaptured in the Bostan-Susangerd region, repulsing several Iraqi counteroffensives, destroying 20 Iraqi tanks and downing three Iraqi helicopters. The communique said fighting was continuing in that region as well as on most of the western fronts. Another Tehran radio report said mopping up operations in the Bostan region were almost complete.

On the other hand, Iraqi Armed Forces communique transmitted by INA claimed that Iraqi forces were continuing to attack the "remnants of the fleeing enemy forces" in the Susangerd area. It said Iranian losses amounted to 336 dead and 85 tanks destroyed.

Tehran radio broadcast a speech by Iranian Majlis speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in which he said that the Iranian offensive in Khuzestan had been timed to coincide with the Arab League summit conference in Fes as an "answer" to the Arab "reactionaries" and the U.S. exercises in the area. He added that it had been delayed after the Fes summit was suspended because it had been learned from Iraqi prisoners of war that the Iraqi Army was aware of the plan.

Iran

Government Purge -- In a speech to a group of Friday imams, a recording of which was broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni said that a purge is currently taking place in government departments. He added that an inspectorate general will soon become operational.

Denial of Arms Deal -- Tehran radio's Arabic service, citing the Iranian Embassy in Bahrain, denied allegations by Riyadh radio and Gulf newspapers that Iran has brought arms from Israel.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FATAH REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEETS ON FES SUMMIT

JN011553 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1505 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The Fatah Revolutionary Council yesterday held an emergency meeting in the presence of Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. It discussed in detail the current political situation in light of the results of the 12th summit and its impact on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels.

During the meeting, Yasir 'Arafat presented a detailed report on the Fes summit and the Arab foreign ministers conference which preceded it and on the contacts made before, during and after the summit. The council also discussed the situation in the occupied territories where the Palestinian martyrs are confronting the autonomy scheme, civil administration and other arbitrary and repressive measures implemented by the Israeli authorities against the Palestinians.

In a [word indistinct] attention [words indistinct] problem and to silence the nationalist voices which are protesting these conspiratorial schemes, the Revolutionary Council discussed the situation in south Lebanon in light of the increased Israeli military concentrations in [words indistinct] the aim behind which is to strike at the steadfastness of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces. The Council further discussed the measures necessary to ensure the continued steadfastness of our forces in their confrontation of the new attack prepared by the Zionist enemy.

L'OPINION INTERVIEWS CHEDLI KLIBI ON FES SUMMIT

LD011418 Rabat MAP in English 1230 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Rabat, 1 Dec (MAP) -- In an interview to the Moroccan daily L'OPINION, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi affirmed, "The Fes summit was in my opinion, of positive contribution to Arab perspective to settle difficulties the League's countries face.

To a question on the lesson to draw from the first session of the 12th Arab summit, Mr Klibi said "The gathering of Nov 25 allowed us to discern a new method in approaching problems. This time, he did not try at all to save Arab face before the rest of the world by elaborating a "window dressing" communique disguishing discontent or discordance in order to avoid, at the same time, hurting certain sensibilities."

Mr Klibi said that with the Fes summit, "We open a new era of a clear lasting Arab policy. In this regard, the Fes summit was a truely precious lesson." Paying homage to King Hassan II of Morocco for this determinant [as received] role in handling the situation, Mr Klibi underscored the importance of the unanimous adoption of the resolution on Lebanon. Asked if the Arab League would seek reintegration of Egypt, Mr Klibi said it was "too early to speak of this", precising that "we have to wait for things to evolve", adding that "it is up to the Egyptian people to decide what they want to do and how they want to present their action."

KUWAITI PAPER INTERVIEWS FATAH'S SALAH KHALAF

PM011625 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 25 Nov 81 p 9

[Khawlah Nazzal interview with Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), member of the Fatah Central Committee, in Beirut -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Many statements have been made by Palestinian officials regarding the Palestinian attitude to Prince Fahd's plan, yet the Palestinian attitude needs further clarification. What is this attitude?

[Answer] There is no doubt that Prince Fahd's plan contains certain positive points that do not conflict with the PLO's political program, with the exception of point seven which deals with the question of coexistence with Israel. This is the basic point of difference in the area. The United States and Israel will only take point seven and will try to cling to it as Arab and Palestinian recognition of Israel. On the basis of this recognition they will dictate terms to the PLO that the solution should be according to the Camp David accords, which means official recognition of Israel. This is proved by Begin's recent statements that the positive element in the plan is the recognition of Israel.

I say that only the Palestinian state has a right to recognize Israel. As for the PLO, it has no right to recognize Israel because it is operating outside the occupied territories. How can we recognize Israel since we are still refugees and dispersed people. When a Palestinian state is established it will have sovereign rights, including the recognition of other states.

Any concession given by the Arabs to Israel under this initiative will lead us to make further concessions. When the plan, for example, is put to the European countries as a first step, pressures will be brought to bear on all its positive points so that further concessions can be obtained and so the plan will become acceptable to them. When the plan is submitted to U.S. circles it will come under further pressure in order to obtain new concessions so that Washington can submit it to Israel which, in the final analysis, will only accept point seven of it.

Therefore the Arabs must submit no initiatives that are contrary to the concepts, principles and inalienable national rights of the Palestinain people.

[Question] What are your expectations regarding the current Egyptian-Israeli meetings on the so-called autonomy, and how do you evaluate them?

[Answer] Why should I evaluate these talks after one party to the talks has announced their failure and deadlock because of disagreement between the two sides on the implementation of three points. Recently Israel has shown its real intention of not giving the Palestinians even this autonomy. Our attitude to these talks has been clear and frank from the beginning, namely total rejection of the essence of this autonomy and of the whole of Camp David.

[Question] There are Israeli threats which are reflected in military movements in south Lebanon. How serious are these movements and are they connected with the Saudi plan?

[Answer] Since the assassination of As-Sadat we have been expecting the United States and Israel to stage a major event in the area to make up for the loss of one of their best men in the area. This is confirmed by the recent political moves in the area, including the continuing threats to Libya through Sudan, the U.S. staging of the "Bright Star" maneuvers and its attempts to escalate the Algerian-Moroccan dispute by exploiting the Sahara war. This has led to tension in the Arab ranks. And now they are trying to exploit the situation in south Lebanon, in case all the other attempts fail.

[Question] How far are you prepared to go to face an emergency situation like this?

[Answer] We do not want war in south Lebanon, but we are determined to defend ourselves and our positions there if battle is imposed on us. There is no doubt that the battles that our youth fought so bravely against the Zionist enemy in south Lebanon -- the 8-day battle in May 1978 and the fifth war, which ended with the enemy's request for a cease-fire -- have given proof of the Palestinian and Lebanese military superiority in defending the south and the Palestinian revolution.

The Israelis are still concerned about this superiority and fear it. For this reason we find the Israeli command making careful calculations before it launches any attack on southern Lebanon.

[Question] Allow me to move to another issue which concerns your relations with the Amal movement. What are the possibilities of coexisting with this movement, and what is Iran's role in this conflict?

[Answer] In fact there is no conflict between the resistance and the Amal movement. Indeed, relations are good. As a matter of fact, it was the resistance that helped and contributed to bringing the Amal movement into existence during the era of Imam Musa as-Sadr, when he proposed the idea of combining all the deprived elements into a movement to be called Amal. The real dispute is between the Amal and certain parties in the Lebanese nationalist movement. Unfortunately, these disputes take the form of bloody conflicts in the Lebanese arena, from which only the Israeli enemy benefits.

[Question] How do you view the coming battle for the Lebanese presidency?

[Answer] This is a purely Lebanese matter and the PLO has no right to interfere in it or in Lebanese internal affairs. But we hope that there will be a president for the Lebanese republic with Arab policies, capable of building bridges between himself and the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese nationalist movement as well as with all the other Lebanese parties.

PLO OFFICIAL ON 'ARAFAT'S VISIT TO GREECE

PM291303 Beirut AN-NAHAR in Arabic 27 Oct 81 p 9

[Unattributed report: "'Arafat in Athens Before End of Year"]

[Text] Director of the PLO's information and liaison office in Greece Shawqi Armali has stated that the Greek Government wishes PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Greece to take place as soon as possible and, certainly before the end of the current year.

Referring to the dimensions of the Greek Government's historic decision, Armali regarded it "a major victory for the PLO and the Palestinian revolution because Greece, which is an EEC member, has adopted a more progressive stance than the other European Community states. This will have tremendous positive repercussions for our revolution in the near future."

He added: "This stance will have repercussions within the socialist movement internationally; it will particularly have an impact on the course of Western foreign policy in view of the Greek Socialist Party's strong relations with its French counterpart."

He said: "Greece has proved that any collective European initiative is useless because, for 2 years now, the European states have been taking one step forward and two steps back. But Greece has resolved the issue and decided to accord the PLO de jure recognition. It has also resolved that its decision should not be subject to any influence, American or otherwise. This makes the Greek decision extremely courageous."

BAHRAIN

DAILY ON IRANIAN ARMS DEAL WITH ISRAEL

GF300819 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Manama, 30 Nov (WAKH) -- The Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ states that Iranian Majlis speaker Rafsanjani's admission that Iran purchased arms from Israel came as no surprise. The paper stresses that this fact proves that Iranian denials are not worthy of attention.

In today's editorial the paper says that in the wake of the revolution's victory the Iranian regime severed relations with Israel, announced that Israel and the United States were the foremost enemies of Iran and Islam, affirmed support for the Palestinian revolution and ruled that it was necessary to utilize the wealth of the Muslims in supporting the Palestinian revolution. The paper asks: Does all this conform with dealing with the Zionist entity and purchasing arms from it? And does this agree with the real interests of the Iranian people?

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ stresses that arms deals with Israel must result in a network of relations and dealings that would enable Israel to creat a new presence in Iran and conspire against the interests of the Iranian people and the entire region.

The paper states that whether the reason was the strange justification given by Rafsanjani -- Iran's willingness to recover an old debt from Israel -- or a plot to enable Iran to continue its war against Iraq, it does not alter the bitter fact that the Iranian leaders are prepared to throw the Iranian people once more to Israeli, and thus U.S., claws for the sake of goals that are remote from high Islamic ideals.

The paper concludes that it would have been more honorable for the Iranian leadership to forget the Israeli debt and sincerely seek an honorable and just peace with Iraq, instead of dealing with the enemy of Islam and the Muslims and the enemies of the Iranian people themselves.

KUWAIT

DRAFT PRESS LAW SUBMITTED TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WA021111 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 5 Nov 81 pp 1, 6

[Text] Kuwait, Nov. 4: The draft press law prepared by the government and presented to the National Assembly forbids the questioning or abuse of the fundamentals of Islam, the state religion. It also forbids criticism of his highness the amir or holding him responsible for any action. Similarly the government must not be blamed.

The proposed law forbids the publication of articles which incite to murder, looting or arson. Sentences passed against perpetators of sexual murders, prostitutes, pimps, or rapists cannot be questioned in print.

It is forbidden to publish any pornographic material of material which advocates obscencty.

Publication of details of legal proceedings held in camera is forbidden, and so is publication of Cabinet deliberations without prior permission.

The press is forbidden from questioning Kuwait's harmonious relationship with Arab and other Islamic states, and from abusing the head of state or representative of any country which has diplomatic ties with Kuwait.

It is also forbidden to try to insult or undermine the work of the National Assembly, courts of law, etc.

Articles which evoke hatred against any one section of the population, or holding a community of people in disdain, or which outrage public decency, or which could bring a libel action must not be published. It is also forbidden to publish articles which preach mutiny or incite population to impede public works.

The press is not allowed to publish fabricated documents aimed at disturbing the calm of the country. Figures about armed forces and confidential statements by government officials must not be published.

It is forbidden to publish alarming reports which are detrimental to the country's monetary or economic situation. News about bankruptcy of companies cannot be published unless specified otherwise.

Suspension

The chief editor ultimately decides what gets printed and he or she is therefore held legally responsible in case of any violations, the draft says. A sub-editor may be called to answer legal charges in the absence of the chief editor. Convictions may lead to a suspension of the publication for up to six months.

A newspaper publisher in this country must be a Kuwaiti national not less than 25 years of age and of good past conduct. He or she must not be in employment by a foreign country or company, the draft press law stipulates.

A chief editor or sub-editor must not be a civil servant of a National Assembly member. He or she must have sufficient professional qualifications and proper background for the job. He or she is ultimately responsible for what goes into print.

All articles printed in local newspapers must be signed. Authors are not allowed to use pseudonyms unless they have informed the Ministry of Information.

The standing press law has been issued in the absence of Parliament and by submitting the new draft bill to the Assembly, the government wishes to ensure a proper national debate on all articles of the law.

The proposed press and publication law will be discussed in the current session of the National Assembly. Its details were leaked to the press yesterday.

Monitoring

The core of the proposal states that the Information Ministry will be responsible for monitoring the performance of the country's daily newspapers, weeklies, periodicals, etc. to ensure they abide by the clauses of the law. In cases of violations the Ministry will stipulate appropriate fines or other penalities, as provided for in the law.

Under existing legislation, a host of government committees supervised the press.

An aspiring publisher of a newspaper must apply for a license and if the Ministry approves the application a deposit of up to KD 10,000 must be paid in. This deposit is kept as a security to cover any subsequent fines. The money can be also reimbursed if the paper is suspended indefinitely or the licence is withdrawn.

Editors and writers working in a newspaper must have appropirate qualifications and must not be likewise employed by a foreign party. They ought to have been registered with a press syndicate in their home country for at least five years prior to their employment in Kuwait.

Alternatively, it is required that they have worked for at least five years in a relevant field in Kuwait before their appointment.

Two copies of each newspaper should be deposited with the Information Ministry daily and, similarly, two copies will be given to the National Library.

Any paper that violates the provisions of the law could be suspended by the Information Ministry. A range of fines has been drafted for a multitude of possible violations.

Each newspaper can publish a weekly supplement, supplied with a day's copy and free of charge.

Embassies

Diplomatic missions here are entitled to print their own newsletters and periodicals, provided they have obtained an Information Ministry licence. The licence can be withdrawn in case of abuse or violations of the law.

KUNA REVIEWS PRESS ON HABIB VISIT, U.S. POLICY

LD011354 Kuwait KUNA in English 1107 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Dec (KUNA) -- Extracts from Kuwait newspaper editorials Tuesday:

AL-QABAS on U.S. envoy Philip Habib's return to the region:

"The declared mission of Mr Philip Habib is to contain the crisis of the Syrian missiles in the Al-Biqa Valley, and to follow up the Palestinian-Israeli 'disengagement' in southern Lebanon. Yet Mr Habib is also pursuing another mission in the back stage through repeated meetings with the concerned parties inside and outside Lebanon. This mission relates to the Lebanese presidential election due constitutionally after a few months.

"Hence, it becomes clear that things are so intermingled with each other not on the Lebanese map alone, but also on the Arab-Israeli-American, European and the Soviet map. Through the developments of the presidential election battle in Lebanon it will become evident whether the region will witness a comprehensive and wide solution for everybody or whether the military alternative will become Israel's way of launching more offensives and achieving more expansion."

Kuwait TIMES on the same subject:

One wonders if it was really a mere coincidence that U.S. special Middle East envoy Philip Habib's coming to Lebanon again was heralded by a horrifying blast at Damascus which claimed 200 civilian casualties.

Syria's hardline stand at the Fes meeting, howsoever debatable, could well be a pretext, howsoever lame, for Syria to become an object of pressure tactics by the U.S. Zionist combine.

There is no special reason to think that Philip Habib might have shed his lopsided concepts about the bases of a just settlement of the Palestine issue, of which the Lebanon crisis is but an offshoot. A keynote of his approach is that the Soviets "do not have the capability to bring peace to the Middle East region" while the U.S. is in a unique position to do so.

Stripped of its cryptic phraseology and viewed in the context of the U.S. role in the matter, Philip Habib's postulate plainly implies an assertion of the relative, and at least (?assumed) consciousness (?of) strength on the part of the administration which he represents, without any consideration for justice and fair play."

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement:

"The provisions of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement are not the ones announced Monday night but the ones that will never be revealed.

"The Israeli security theory, among the examples of which are the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the violation of the Saudi airspace, the free strikes of Lebanon and which might extend to reach [words indistinct] Uganda, means, according to those examples at least, that Israel will strike wherever it wants and in the manner it wishes under the American umbrella and this strategic agreement.

"One point that probably had to be made an exception [words indistinct] announced relates to giving (?Israel) a free hand to 'exercise its legal right of acting in self-defence.'

"In reality, this text (point) translates, in a horrible similarity, the law of the jungle without being groomed.

"The Israeli security is so sensitive especially when it comes to any aspect of the Arab power. If it so happens that an Arab national is a scientist he should be assassinated, or murdered, according to this (jungle) law because he poses a threat to the Israeli security. Should an Arab carry a (?weapon), killing him becomes a certain right [word indistinct].... Despite this, we still imagine we could attain our rights in Palestine.

"Through this decisive and hostile policy, the U.S. wants to push the Arabs or let's say some of them will a clear resolute [as received] towards the other side, meaning the Soviet Union. In other words, the U.S. wants to establish a real partition between the Arabs and not peace.

"Of course this does not indicate an American passion for the Soviets but it indicates the zenith of hatred towards the Arabs."

PDRY

VOICE OF PFLO ON USE OF MERCENARIES IN OMAN

EA272301 Aden Voice of the PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Brothers: Mercenaries constitute a very high proportion of the ranks of the military establishment of Qabus' agent regime. They are of various non-Arab nationalities -- Asian and European. The Baluchi mercenaries occupy first place in terms of numbers, whereas the Britons occupy first place in terms of (?positions). There is an agreement between the Government of Pakistan and Qabus' regime for facilitating an operation for the emigration of the Baluchis from Pakistani Baluchistan to Muscat -- to be exact those whom emissaries of the Muscat regime choose and who carry out this filthy task of theirs in complete secrecy.

The presence of these mercenaries arouses the sensitivity and indignation of Omani soliders and officers who feel there is [word indistinct] and injustice in the quality of opportunities and privileges.

(?While) the Pakistani Government provides cover and protection to the emissaries of Qabus' regime in their tours of parts of Baluchistan, the masses of Baluchistan meet these emissaries with hostility and resistance, for these masses consider that it is in the interest of the Pakistani regime to exacuate the area of Baluchi youths.

This interest converged with the interest of the Muscat regime, which uses these youths as firewood for the fire of the Omani popular resistance, as has happened in the past and as will happen in future, bringing hatred and spite between the Omani and Baluchi peoples, a matter which (?delights) the two agent regimes [words indistinct].

The Baluchi masses have [words indistinct] this policy and course of the rulers of Pakistan and the Muscat regime. They began to resist this policy and confront the emissaries of the rulers of Muscat with various means which on many occasions reached the point of assassinating some of these emissaries, as happened in 1978 when two emissaries of the Muscat regime, who were carrying out their filthy task in the Baluchi town of (Khudra), were assassinated.

It is an incident that agitated the Pakistani regime and incited it to launch a campaign of extensive arrests among the inhabitants of the town and its neighboring villages. The Pakistani Government held sham trials of student elements who were arrested in this campaign. It sentenced nine of them to death. The sentence was carried out on two of these: Ahmad Baluchi and another called Abd an-Nasir, aged 24 years. The death sentence was carried out on him in [word indistinct] prison on the morning of 21 August 1981. The remaining seven are awaiting the same fate, as was said by the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency, whose report was quoted by the newspaper "AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ", published in Bahrain in English, on the 22d of the same month.

What is important is that such an incident has revealed the lie of the rulers of Muscat and the falsity of their claim that they are endeavoring to form an army of Omani countrymen, but rather that they are still moving, in this respect, in the same direction that was followed by their predecessors in importing mercenaries. [Words indistinct] reason is that these mercenaries alone are the beneficiaries in defending the regime which imported them and which provides their livelihood. But until when and to what extent?

UAE

MINISTER DENIES ARMS SENT TO IRAN VIA DUBAYY

GF291149 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Nov (WAKH) -- UAE Minister of Information and Culture, Ahmad ibn Hamid has denied a report published by a Kuwaiti newspaper yesterday about an alleged arms consignment to Iran going through Dubayy airport.

In a statement today the minister called the report fabricated and untrue.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO CAMEROON -- An agreement was signed in Abu Dhabi today to grant Cameroon 16 million dirhams or about $4.3 million by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development [ADFAED]. The loan will finance a road project in Cameroon and will be repaid over 12 years, with a 3-year grace period. The agreement was signed on ADFAED's behalf by its managing director, Nasir an-Nuways, and on Cameroon's behalf by visiting Cameroonian Economy and Planning Minister, Youssoufa Daouda, who arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning. [Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 30 Nov 81 GF]

GOVERNMENT APPROVES AUTONOMY TALKS POSTPONEMENT

NC011919 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Egypt has approved of the postponement of the autonomy negotiations working team meeting until 21 December. Originally, the negotiations were scheduled to be held 2 December, in Israel. The reason for the postponement is that the members of the Israeli team are now outside Israel.

ISRAELI CHIEF OF STAFF EYTAN TO VISIT 13 DEC

NC011958 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1935 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA) -- An official Egyptian source has stated that Israeli Army Chief of Staff Gen Rafa'el Eytan will arrive in Egypt on 13 December for a 4-day visit. The source added that the discussions during this visit will deal with points pertaining to the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai on 25 April and that there be no problems concerning the withdrawal. The source explained that the Egyptian side in the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee will coordinate between the various Egyptian ministries concerned with the withdrawal and the Israeli side and that everything will be completed on schedule.

CHRISTIANS TO BE RELEASED; HAYKAL TO RETIRE

PM011139 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Nov 81 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau Report]

[Text] Cairo -- ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that steps are being taken to release some of the Christian religious figures who were detained last September. The number of those to be released totals 22. They have been moved to the residence of former President Muhammad Najib in Al-Marj, 25 km from Cairo, preparatory for their release prior to Christmas. Official sources told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that President Husni Mubarak is preparing to rescind the order releasing Pope Shinudah from his post.

On the other hand, the weekly AL-MUSAWWAR published in its issue an interview with Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal following his release. In the interview Haykal said that this will be his last contact with political life and the press in Egypt and that from now on he will not make any statements or interviews. Haykal spoke about the conditions under which he was arrested and about Egypt's relations with the Arab world. He said: An Arab world without Egypt will by necessity be divided into regional groups that include the Fertile Crescent group, the Arabian Peninsula group, the Nile Valley group and the Arab Maghreb group.

OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER MURAD INTERVIEWED

GF011900 Manama SADA AL-USBU', in Arabic 1 Dec 81 pp 6-10

[Telephone interview granted by Deputy Chairman of the Socialist Labor Party Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad to Shafiq Ahmad 'Ali of the Bahraini weekly magazine SADA AL-USBU' on 26 November 1981]

[Excerpts] [Question] First, I would like to hear your comments on the decision concerning your "release."

[Answer] This decision was expected after the reasons that had called for imposing restrictions on us were eliminated. There were no facts or accusations that required investigation. It was only a question of settling a personal feud and a desire to unconstitutionally suppress all opposition. As a result of such illogical and reckless decisions last September the country was overwhelmed by an air of grievance. A great number of citizens belonging to different sects and groups were detained and the democratic, legal channels were closed down. Hence, there was no other way for airing grievances except to resort to violence. I had warned of this reaction in most of my articles published in ASH-SHA'B newspaper before it was closed down as part of last September's measures that took away our liberties. What I had warned of happened. Indeed, if the ones who assassinated As-Sadat didn't do it somebody else would have, in one way or another. He inspired his own death. He did a great deal of harm to the domestic situation. We hope that President Husni Mubarak will reinstate a sound domestic situation, will be able to put an end to the people's suffering and to corruption and will work on closing the Arab ranks. We also hope that he will uphold the concept of nonalignment so that our hopes of comprehensive peace in the entire Arab region will come true.

[Question] I forgot to ask you about the "quality" of the treatment you received as political prisoners?

[Answer] Even 10 days after As-Sadat's assassination we were still being treated worse than those who were convicted for criminal offenses, while in fact we were in restraint. That is, there were no accusations against us but we were supposed to be kept from society for a while.

[Question] When and how did you find out about As-Sadat's assassination?

[Answer] We did not hear about As-Sadat's assassination. However, the following day some officers informed us that President as-Sadat had "died" without giving any further details. They asked us not to improperly react to the news. Actually, as nonreactionist politicians, we rose to the occasion.

[Question] They told you that he had died?

[Answer] Yes, in the beginning, they told us that he had died from natural causes. Then gradually they revealed the truth and eventually said that he had been assassinated.

[Question] In prison, did you expect such an incident?

[Answer] In fact, everyone expected some sort of a serious event as a result of the unreasonable dangerous decision [of detention] that defied feelings and did not heed any considerations.

[Question] Speaking of Islamic groups, what is your comment on keeping 'Umar at-Tilmisani in "restraint"?

[Answer] I believe, or rather expect, that the elimination of the positions of the members of Muslim groups and Christian sects lodged in "cells" will take place as a second phase. It is apparent that Muslim groups are not all treated or viewed alike. Some groups are considered extremist and are inclined to violence -- so the authorities view them. Other groups do not pursue this policy.

[Question] By the way, during your meeting with President Husni Mubarak, did you discuss the issue of the return of the party newspapers that As-Sadat had suspended, as a democratic necessity in the next phase?

[Answer] We did not discuss this issue, especially because we didn't want to go through "details" during the first meeting with President Husni Mubarak and because he showed readiness to discuss any issue at any time in the future. Nevertheless, he generally called on us to be patient during this crucial phase until he has dealt with the "security" issue in the country.

[Question] Did you discuss or do you expect the formation of a "coalition government" in the next phase?

[Answer] At the moment I don't have any information that would "enable" me to answer such a question.

[Question] If such a coalition took place, how would you view it?

[Answer] Indeed, it is a proposal to be discussed. However, prior understanding of the bases for such a formation must be reached first, not to mention the most significant policies that would be pursued.

[Question] The decision of releasing the political detainees and yourself as the deputy chairman of the Socialist Labor Party, will it be followed by changes in your party positions on Camp David for instance?

[Answer] As far as Camp David is concerned, the practical aspect, and in particular Israeli-Egyptian relations, has only one phase left -- the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai. We are eager to achieve this. As far as the naturalization of relations is concerned, we still demand and will keep demanding that the naturalization of relations mean that we are not in a state of war or hostility. However, it does not mean granting privileges to Israel that any other country with which we have no special relations does not enjoy.

[Question] What is your position on the Arab Jerusalem issue?

[Answer] It has not changed.

[Question] How do you view the Egyptian participation in the "Bright Star" maneuvers, as it was called?

[Answer] I feel that we should be careful to show nonalignment to the superpowers in order not to have our relations with them misconstrued or biased in any way whatsoever as a result of such training or facilities.

[Question] And the Fahd peace plan?

[Answer] You can consider it a proposal that opens the way to discussion as a substitute for Camp David, which has reached a deadlock.

[Question] One final question, before and after the Israeli Sinai withdrawal, how do you envisage the future of Egyptian-Arab relations?

[Answer] During our meeting with President Husni Mubarak we heard him say that he is eager to establish good relations with the Arab countries, that he will not do anything to harm them and that he is ready to discuss any opinion or proposal made by the Arab countries without a mediator. This is a matter we have always demanded for the restoration of unity in the Arab ranks because it is the best protection for our national aspirations.

CHANGES IN POLITICAL STRUCTURE EXPECTED

GF300450 Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic 28 Nov 81 pp 1, 4

[Special report to AR-RAYAH from Cairo]

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak has directed a small group -- considered to be a minicabinet outside the government -- to determine the new political structure which he will form and announce to the public in the coming stage. It is known that former Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz Hijazi chairs this group, which is working in private, away from the clamor of local and foreign media.

It has also been learned from reliable sources that the new political structure, according to the perspectives of the president and the activity of the small groups, will concentrate on outlines that will reflect the future of the political and executive organizations in the fourth republic.

The characteristics of the new stage call for lifting limitations on the activities of the current opposition parties: Socialist Labor Party [SPL], National Progressive Unionist Party [NPUG] and Liberal Socialist Party [LSP]. The coming stage also calls for the possible formation of new parties such as a National Front Party [NLP], a neo-Wafd party and an enlightened Islamic party.

Dr Mustafa Khalil is most likely to be chosen to lead the NLP's activities, provided the party's secretary general is elected from the younger generation of competent men.

It is certain that President Mubarak will give up the post of prime minister in the formation of a new Cabinet that will include new ministers and ministers who were in Cabinets during the time of presidents 'Abd an-Nasir and As-Sadat and who are known for their competence. Their primary duty will be to reconstruct Egypt politically, militarily, economically and culturally.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz Hijazi will retain the post of prime minister. It is expected that the new ministers will include men like Usamah al-Baz, who is a candidate for the foreign and information ministries. Known economy ministers who worked with Dr Jijazi are also expected to return. The current ministerial group led by 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid is expected to disappear together with the group appointed through the influence of Eng 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman.

The idea of seeking assistance from independent ministers and ministers close to the moderate opposition toward the formation of a national unity government is under discussion.

It is also certain that the People's Assembly will continue until after April. Yet democracy is expected to be enhanced by giving opposition members the opportunity of parliamentary participation, unlike what had been true during the past 2 years. In this light, the opposition parties will be consulted on various national issues.

It is expected that a new press policy will be followed. Among the new papers will be two opposition newspapers, one for the SPL and the second for the NPUG. Preparations to issue the two papers are underway. It is known that Hamid Zaydan, chief editor of ASH-SHA'B -- the mouthpiece of the SPL, now suspended -- was among the first group of detainees recently released.

President Mubarak has ordered the dissolution of most of the president's advisory councils which did not do any fruitful work during the past period. He instead ordered the formation of experienced groups to study each problem separately with the assistance of Egyptian experts regardless of their doctrines or ideologies.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 539

JN011733 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi forces today continued to strike at the fleeing defeated Persian forces in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, dealing painful blows, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment and capturing many prisoners. Communique No 539 issued today by the Armed Forces General Command on the course of military operations during the past 24 hours put known enemy losses at 309 killed and 85 tanks, 5 armored personnel carriers, 6 vehicles and 3 guns destroyed. The communique put Iraqi losses at 23 martyrs in all sectors.

Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 539 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And soon will the unjust assailants know what turn their affairs will take. [Koranic verse]

Armed with the determination of our brave grandfathers and with the persistence of men loyal to the principles and values of heroism and valor, our armed forces continued to strike at the remnants of the defeated enemy, thus asserting to the whole world the falsehood of the charlatans in Qom and Tehran, who are deceiving their sick minds with fake victories just as they did when they launched their aggression against us in order to deceive their oppressed peoples.

Following is the outcome of our activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our valiant forces continued to strike at the remnants of the feeling enemy forces in the Khafajiyah region. They continued their large-scale attack on the enemy without pause, dealing painful blows for the 3d day running and inflicting grave losses in life and equipment. Known enemy losses amount to 336 dead, a large number captured and 85 tanks, 5 armored personnel carriers, 6 vehicles and 3 guns destroyed. With God's help, we will furnish you with other results of this battle.

B. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in front of their positions in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 32 killed.

C. An enemy concentration was sighted in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd our forces pounded the enemy concentration, killing 15.

D. Six were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

E. Our valiant air force and their hero eagles continued their raids all day today on the enemy remnants, inflicting grave losses on its armored cars and personnel. They returned safely to base.

Thus, known enemy losses amount to 389 dead and 85 tanks, 5 armored personnel carriers, 6 vehicles and 3 guns destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. 23 martyrs in all sectors.

ARMS DEAL WITH GREECE REPORTEDLY CONCLUDED

PM011245 London AL-MAJALLAH 28 Nov-4 Dec 81 p 7

["From AL-MAJALLAH's Envoys" feature]

[Text] Well-informed diplomatic sources have revealed that Iraq has agreed with Greece on an important arms deal, details of which have been shrouded in great secrecy.

The sources said that the agreement was reached during a recent visit to Athens by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz, during which he met Greek Prime Minister Papandreou and handed him a message from President Saddam Husayn.

Well-informed sources in Athens said that Iraq will buy from Greece surface-to-air and air-to-air missiles and ammunition for its long-range heavy artillery. Negotiations will be held with the Greeks in order to agree on the repair and maintenance of a large number of aircraft, particularly the Mirages which Iraq obtained from France. In return Iraq has pledged to supply Greece with 2 million tons of crude oil annually. During the visit Papandreou announced his support for Iraq in its war against Iran. The Iranians have asked for "official clarifications" from Greece regarding this stand. It is recalled that 'Aziz and Papandreou are old friends and have known each other since the early seventies.

USSR SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION BEGINS VISIT

JN010900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA) -- A USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, began a weeklong visit to Iraq today at the invitation of the National Assembly.

In a statement to INA, Gilashvili said that the visit will effectively contribute to strengthening and consolidating relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union. He added that he will be holding talks with National Assembly officials on bolstering cooperation between the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the National Assembly. He also praised the friendship between these two bodies and the existing treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He said that the development of relations between the two countries will help to enhance the world peace process.

Confers With Na'im Haddad

JN011806 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Dec (INA) -- A delegation of the National Assembly led by Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad met today with the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation headed by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Georgian SSR Presidium. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union, particularly between the National Assembly and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the means to develop and strengthen these relations in the service of the two friendly countries.

The Soviet delegation arrived in Baghdad early today on a weeklong visit to Iraq.

AL-WAZZAN STATEMENT UPON RETURN FROM FES

NC272015 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] The Lebanese delegation to the 12th Arab summit conference led by President Ilyas Sarkis left Fes this morning for Geneva and arrived there at 1400. President Sarkis will spend several days in Switzerland for medical tests.

At 1500, the Lebanese delegation led by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan left Geneva for Beirut and arrived at about 1830. Prime Minister al-Wazzan made the following statement at the airport:

[Begin recording] Certainly you have had the news and even assessments before our arrival here of the conference that was held in fraternal Morocco. As we arrive in the homeland, we would like first to greet fraternal Morocco and its monarch, His Majesty King Hasan II. If Lebanon has missed the chance of the convening of the conference it had called for and persistently sought, the circumstances have led to the convening of this conference which was eventually devoted to Lebanon. As Lebanese, it pleases us that there was an Arab consensus on the Lebanese working paper, on the feelings of responsibility toward Lebanon, the unanimous resolution on Lebanon as well as the unanimous recommendation at the Arab foreign ministers' preparatory conference, which included the Lebanese working paper. Regarding the Lebanese situation, we consider this as a good step regarding both the form and substance.

It remains to be said that as organs of the body of this Arab group meeting under the most difficult and grave circumstances for the sake of the most important Arab issue facing us at present time -- the Palestine question -- I would have hoped that affairs among the Arab brothers had reached a level of maturity that would enable them to settle the main issue at this conference in particular. As things have taken this turn, and it seems before they matured enough among the presidents and kings -- all of them are responsible at these grave times regarding the great grave cause I have mentioned -- the views of the vast majority of the conferees or, rather, the majority, were that it was preferrable to postpone the conference and all the issues on its agenda, particularly the well-known plan for a solution [presumably Saudi Prince Fahd's peace plan] as well as several other issues on the agenda. It was beneficial in the views of all conferees to postpone the sessions of the conference so that new contacts and consultations can take place to reach a unified Arab stand on the fateful Palestinian question.

Certain people are pessimistic. Certain people also believe that this question which arose before 1948 can be resolved overnight or that all the conferees can concur on resolving it, but the facts prove that it cannot be solved like this and that continuous consultations are inevitable to unify stances on this issue. It remains for me to refer to the pessimists or those who constantly seek to instill the spirit of pessimism or feel happy when divisions emerge. To these people I say that during the discussions and in the spirit that prevailed when the decision to postpone the conference was made, I found only the same spirit that sought to unify the stands and to eliminate differences in all plans under discussions. If the divisions were deliberate, there would have been insistence either on discarding or discussing the plan. However, because there was consensus on postponing discussions of all the issues on the agenda and not only the plan pertinent to solving the Palestine issue, this indicates that the Arab brothers, as they were during the Arab foreign ministers' preparatory conference, demonstrated a high level of objective discussion off this plan. I believe that they will also face up to this level of responsibility in following up the contacts and consultations to emerge with a unified Arab stand. I can also conclude this from the Arab brothers' agreement to discuss the Lebanese issue as a separate item as if the conference was especially convened to discuss the Lebanese issue.

I believe that the Arab brothers' agreement to establish a unified Arab strategy and to entrust the Arab brothers to draft this strategy in a period of time not exceeding the forthcoming meeting of the Arab League indicates that there are concerted Arab efforts to discuss joint Arab action that would remove divisions and rifts which certain people want to portray or even play up. I consider these people to be enemies of Arabism who gloat over any Arab progress.

What has been decided for Lebanon and in line with the Lebanese working paper that I mentioned is a step forward that requires sound and sincere implementation. All we have to do now is to exert efforts to bring about this sound implementation. Before we came to Lebanon, a meeting was held with the Arab League secretary general, who was entrusted with holding contacts with certain Arab countries to form the committee that would draft this unified Arab strategy. During the meeting with the Arab League secretary general, we reached an agreement on certain suitable premises to go ahead with this mission that we hope it will be implemented in the near future.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister: Meetings at such levels draw talks about the possibility of reflecting negative or positive implications in the Lebanese arena. There has been much talk this time about negative implication. What is your opinion?

[Answer] If one talks to a sick man about negative implications, he might be alarmed or such talk may actually reflect on his health. Let us be like the doctor and the sick person. Let us avoid such talk, which is useless, and let us continue our course with sincere work, because we have no other course with which we serve the homeland and seek deliverance.

[Question] In your opinion, what is the extent of the effect of the division in viewpoint that took place at the Fes summit on the function of the Arab Followup Committee?

[Answer] What I said in reply to the previous question applies to this also. We must continue our work, and if we faced any negative implications or any difficulties, God forbid, we must overcome them and try and try again until we succeed. The question is that of a homeland, not that of trading which can be abandoned or carried on. We will not abandon this matter as long as it is connected with Lebanon -- this dear wounded homeland.

[Question] Mr Prime Minster: Do you have an explanation about the mission or the date of Philip Habib's tour of the area and the effect of the summit on it?

[Answer] The world states have their own ideas, interests and contacts. We also have our own stands, principles and goals. We welcome whoever comes, and farewell to whoever goes. What is important is that we uphold our principles and our work for the sake of our homeland and for all our causes. [end recording]

BUTRUS INTERVIEWED UPON RETURN FROM FES

NC272033 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1813 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Lebanese national news agency correspondent's interview with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus at Beirut airport on 27 November -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Lebanon now has an Arab approval of a Lebanese working paper which it submitted to the Arab summit conference. To what extent do you expect this paper to be implemented?

[Answer] The circumstances that surrounded the adoption of the Lebanese working paper at the preliminary meeting of the foreign ministers, the speeches which were delivered by all the delegations, then the recommendations and the draft resolution which were prepared and submitted to the summit conference and the fact that the summit conference only discussed and adopted the Lebanese working paper to the exclusion of all the other topics on the agenda -- all this indicates that the Arab brothers fully realize the importance of the issue of south Lebanon and the urgent need for tackling it to avoid grave dangers that would not only hurt Lebanon but would hurt the whole Arab world. Therefore, I hope that the Arab League secretary general and all of us will be able to translate the resolutions into facts in a short time and to draw up a strategy compatible with the conditions in south Lebanon. I believe that we will succeed in this. I repeat that the Arab stand toward which all the Arab brothers have contributed, especially the chairman of the summit conference, His Majesty King Hassan II, who expressed special attention to Lebanon -- all this prompts us to believe that this time we have great hope that we will move from the stage of adopting resolutions to the stage of implementing them.

[Question] We all know that the conference la ted only 3 hours and that the conference reached what it reached following discussions which somewhat led to the dedication of Arab division. What is your evaluation of this?

[Answer] If I tell you that I am pleased with the results of the conference in general, with the exception of the subject of Lebanon, I will not be telling the truth. However, it must be observed that I and the others who attended the conference felt that there was a desire on the part of everyone, regardless of their views, to avoid real division and to give ample time to bilateral contacts, consultations, thinking and deep study of subjects to do their work and safeguard a rapprochement among the Arab brothers. If I want to summarize my impression, I say that I sincerely believe that the differences occurred over tactics more than over strategy. Therefore, I have hope that the Arabs will bypass these tactical differences and will reach an agreement, especially since I believe that the differences in views concerning a delicate and multifaceted topic like the one we discussed are a natural thing. What is important is that these differences should not turn into enmity. This is what I wish and what I believe will not happen.

[Question] Don't you believe that these tactical differences will reflect on the Lebanese arena, particularly since before the conference you expressed the hope that this conference would not have adverse results on the Lebanese arena?

[Answer] The Lebanese arena is a very sensitive arena. We cannot ignore this. However, I don't see why the differences in views should reflect on the Lebanese arena at this particular time, as long as everybody realizes that Israel poses a threat to south Lebanon and the Arab countries. Is this the time for the differences among the Arab states to be reflected in Lebanon and other countries? I believe that all those who can play a role in controlling events and preventing an eruption should carefully and deeply think about this.

[Question] A final question dealing with Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan -- this plan, as is known, imposed itself on the conference and led to the results which became known. What do you expect the fate of this plan will be in the light of the discussions that were held inside and outside the conference?

[Answer] I don't believe it is useful or proper to speculate at this particular time. Neither the Arab world nor Lebanon will benefit from such speculation. The present stage is sensitive and delicate. I believe it is better for us to work silently and in a practical and useful way instead of making our speculations publicly. Perhaps it is also premature to make speculation in this connection.

U.S. ENVOY HABIB ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS FOR TALKS

JN011325 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Philip Habib, envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, arrived in Damascus this morning as part of a tour of the Arab region. He was received by Dr Sabah Qabbani, director of the U.S. Department of the Foreign Ministry and Misbah Dalati, assistant chief of protocol at the ministry.

Khaddam-Habib Meeting

JN012134 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received this evening U.S. President Ronald Reagan's envoy Philip Habib, who is currently touring the region.

Further on Meeting

JN011741 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. Middle East envoy Philip Habib is continuing his tour of the region, arriving in Syria from Lebanon. He was received by Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The meeting was attended by Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs; the U.S. ambassador in Damascus; and Nasir Qaddur, Syrian assistant foreign minister.

A Syrian Foreign Ministry source has stated that Khaddam explained to Philip Habib that the only thing that has changed since his last tour several months ago is the fact that Washington signed an agreement for strategic cooperation with Israel. Thus, the U.S. capital has forfeited the right to act as mediator and arbiter in any dispute between the Arabs and Israel, since it has become a direct party to the conflict.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD ADMITS 'CRIME' IN DAMASCUS

JN011547 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] In Bonn, the Muslim Brotherhood gang -- agent of Israel -- admitted it perpetrated the heinous crime in Al-Azbakiyah quarter of Damascus the day before yesterday, a crime whose victims were scores of innocent civilians.

AFP says that a Muslim Brotherhood spokesman informed their office in Bonn last night that the Muslim Brotherhood claims responsibility for the explosion in Al-Azbakiyah quarter of Damascus.

The fascist gang's admission of its crime is new proof of its agentry to Israel, U.S. imperialism and to the malicious reaction and its service to the enemies of our people and this people's steadfastness.

DAMASCUS BLAST DEATH TOLL: UNITED STATES BLAMED

NC011405 Paris AFP in English 1334 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 1 Dec (AFP) -- The death toll in the central Damascus car bomb explosion on Sunday was feared as high as 150 today, with reports of 50 people dying of their wounds last night in one hospital alone.

The official toll has not been upped from 64 dead and 135 wounded, but this gives only the body count on the site of the explosion, in a crowded central street at 11 a.m.

Most of the wounded were civilians, including numerous children, though the bomb was planted outside military police headquarters.

The attack, claimed by the banned rightwing Muslim Brotherhood, has caused deep shock in Syria, with television and the press showing pictures of the mangled bodies of women and children.

One man, who had six children injured by the blast, one of whom was blinded, swore on television today that if he ever came across any member of the Brotherhood he would strangle him with his bare hands.

Meanwhile the ruling Ba'th Party newspaper AL-BA'TH today accused the United States of being behind the massacre, linking the bombing with the arrival in Beirut on Sunday of presidential envoy Philip Habib. Another newspaper yesterday suggested that the Brotherhood had attempted to persuade Syria to give in to "U.S. and Zionist" pressure over the Lebanese problem.

ATH-THAWRAH Reaction

JN011240 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Will of Our People Is Stronger Than the Traitors and Their Masters" ATH-THAWRAH says: Grudges, plots, killing and sabotage are weapons used against our country by parties to the imperialist and Zionist plot. Mercenary killers, remnants of the Muslim Brotherhood gang, whom our people renounced and sentenced, are the instrument and fuel of these crimes.

The parties to the plot did not like the strengthening and deepening of our country's steadfastness or the building of a dignified free life for every citizen in the course of establishing a progressive, socialist society. Thus they resorted to manipulating the remnants of the Muslim Brotherhood gang who are hiding in their dens.

Our people will pursue and liquidate all of them, one after the other. For they are a minority which has committed a savage crime against women, children and old people, thereby confirming their link with imperialism and Zionism. These parties have also confirmed their grudge against everything that exists in Syria because they are the enemy of life and people.

They were afraid because Syria was able to overcome the results of the plot, to pound the dens of these treacherous, agent and plotting gangs and to continue its pan-Arab struggle firmly and solidly in order to defend Arab territory and rights and to confront attempts at imperialist and Zionist hegemony over the region.

They were also afraid because the Syrian struggle has become a polarization center for the Arab masses and a genuine force that drives away dangers and sincerely seeks to use Arab potential in the right place for confrontation. Thus they intensified the plot against Syria to break its steadfastness and make it yield.

These gangs ignored the basic truth that a strong Syria with its size, people and great historical leadership, knows exactly that adherence to principled stands will expose it to more plots, pressure and threats of aggression. But Syria remains strong with its masses, which have issued the final sentence on these plotters and which are determined to continue the pan-Arab liberation march and the socialist reconstruction. The remnants of mercenaries and criminals hiding in the swamps of treachery and plotting and their manipulators will not be able to stand in the way of the Syrian revolutionary march.

Our people's determination will succeeded in foiling the plot and killing its remaining rotten and contaminated tools. The blood of our martyr sons and righteous citizens will remain torches lighting the way ahead of us and increasing our determination to continue our revolutionary march until the aspirations of our masses to liberate the land, wrest the rights and defeat agents and traitors are achieved.

Our people will continue to pursue the agent Muslim Brotherhood gang to destroy its dens abroad and finally defeat the plots of their masters. This is our destiny and this is the responsibility that we must honorably and sincerely assume.

TISHRIN EDITORIAL ON FES SUMMIT POSTPONEMENT

JN280730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Press review]

[Text] In today's editorial, TISHRIN says: When Syria states that these bad Arab times do not objectively permit any settlements or plans, it means that any settlement, under the present Arab circumstances which are witnessing a great disruption in the balance of power among the struggling forces, will inevitably lead to capitulation to the will of the enemy and its allies. This stage, therefore, should not be one of settlements, plans or initiatives but, according to the logic of struggle, one of an intensive buildup of Arab potentials to end the current state of disruption and remedy the Arab situation so it can lead to a pan-Arab resurgence that will reject all humiliating settlements and impose a just settlement, defined by two well-known conditions -- complete withdrawal and the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights. Any talk about peace in the absence of this equation will subsequently lead to capitulation, as evidenced by various experiences in our ancient and contemporary history.

TISHRIN adds: The Fes summit was held under these difficult political and military circumstances and the United States has confronted the summit with two bitter possibilities; the first is that the Arabs, preaching peaceful intentions and a serious desire for peace, will be forced to submit to a substitute, thus falling into the trap of an illusory settlement that has no solid or material base and which they are incapable of implementing even though it has unjust conditions. Thus, the United States and Israel would choose from this substitute what serves their schemes and interests. The Arabs will also be forced to give in because they do not possess the means, mostly because of the strategic balance, that will enable them to impose a just peace. In short, the Fes summit will be a summit for an Arab capitulation with an Arab decision at summit level.

The second possibility is that the first possibility will be foiled, thus opening the door to Arab disputes and to Arab fragmentation and destroying minimum Arab solidarity. This is a main U.S. objective, which will take pressure off of Israel, the ally of the United States, to allow it to resume its belligerence in the region, reassured that the Arab stand is no longer a unified one. Both possibilities constitute strategic U.S. objectives.

TISHRIN adds: The United States, however, forgot that these two possibilities are in fact contradictory bets. The first is that the Arabs who support the United States are not capable of carrying out the U.S. wager of peddling settlements and schemes inspired by the Camp David accords or derived from them. What we mean to say is that the postponement of the summit is a failure of the U.S. wager, the U.S. settlement and U.S. policy in the Middle East. There will be no wager other than that of a just peace.

The second is the wager of the masses and that of steadfastness and confrontation, which constitutes the basic factor of our masses' struggle. It is the only wager that will triumph in the region because it represents the future of the region.

We shall permit ourselves to say that struggler Hafiz al-Asad's decision not to attend the summit at the appropriate time embodies the wager of the masses and that of steadfastness. It is the wager that will always triumph and will always be decisive.

TISHRIN concludes: As usual and under Hafiz al-Asad's leadership, Syria makes the appropriate decision at the appropriate time to have it become decisive and reiterate to the United States that there can be no solution without the Arab nation's will and that no solution can take place if it does not serve the Arab nation's causes and interests.

The Arab nation will never become a U.S. farm regardless of cost or sacrifice. The decision for peace or war is a decision that will be taken by the Arab masses. Syria represents the Arab masses' determination for steadfastness and confrontation.

We are certain that the United States and Israel will not remain silent about Hafiz al-Asad's decision. They will employ all their potential and all the arenas that surround Syria to take revenge for Hafiz al-Asad's decision. We are also certain that Syria is always ready for such eventualities. When Hafiz al-Asad, the leader of the contemporary Arab struggle, adopts a decisive decision such as this one, he very well realizes the consequences that will take place in Lebanon and elsewhere. Syria will remain the key to peace and war, as it has been since 1970, until the Arab masses' course toward a just peace, a course that safeguards Arab dignity and pride, is accepted.

DRAFT TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED AT SUMMIT

JN271254 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Damascus, 27 Nov (SANA) -- Today's Syrian newspapers published the texts of two Syrian draft resolutions approved by the Arab foreign ministers in Fes. There papers report that the Arab foreign ministers unanimously approved the Syrian draft resolution on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Syrian draft resolution on the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. They add that the foreign ministers submitted the draft resolutions to the 12th Arab summit for ratification. Following is the text of these two draft resolutions:

Arab-Israeli Conflict

Draft resolution:

The 12th Arab summit conference has studied the Arab and international situation, particularly the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the means to confront the situation and developments, and has adopted the following resolutions:

One: The Arab-Israeli conflict.

1. The basic principles: To emphasize the commitment to the Arab summit conferences' resolutions, particularly the following:

A. Full liberation of all Arab territories occupied during the June 1967 aggression, nonrelinquishment of any party of those territories, and nonacceptance of any encroachment on the national sovereignty over them.
B. Liberation of Arab Jerusalem and rejection of any status that would harm overall Arab sovereignty over the holy city.
C. Commitment to regaining Palestinian Arab people's national rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination and establishment of an independent Palestinian state on their national soil under the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Arab states will support this state in all fields and on all levels upon its establishment.
D. The Palestine issue is the issue of all Arabs and it is inadmissible for any Arab side to give up this commitment.

2. Based on the aforementioned basic principles, which are not to be violated or abandoned, it is inadmissible for any Arab side to work out any unilateral solution to the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Zionist conflict in general.

The U.S.-Israeli Strategic Alliance

Draft resolution:

After reviewing U.S. policy in the region and its hostility to the Arab nation, particularly in the wake of the recent strategic cooperation agreement with the Zionist enemy, the conference decides the following:

1. To consider this agreement as aimed at imposing U.S. hegemony over the Arab region, entrenching occupation, liquidating the Palestinian issue, reinforcing the aggressive Israeli entity and obstructing the possibility of establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, thus threatening the Arab countries' security and peace as well as international security and peace.

2. To condemn U.S. policy as manifested in its continued support for Israel and the attempts to restore U.S. influence in the region and obtain military bases and facilities therein, efforts which conflict with the Arab countries' will to keep the region free of foreign political and military influence. The conference also condemns the presence of U.S. forces in the region.

3. To intensify cooperation and coordinate efforts among Arab states in order to firmly confront this U.S. policy and attempts to implement it and to prevent this policy from achieving its goals.

4. The summit warns the United States of the consequences of continuing its policy of hostility to the Arab nation and calls on it to reconsider this policy and suspend these Israeli-U.S. agreements, since they place the United States in a state of confrontation with, and hostility to, the Arab nation. The summit calls on the Arab states to adopt appropriate measures for safeguarding the Arab nation's pan-Arab interests.

5. No solution will be accepted unless it is accompanied by a resolution by an Arab summit conference held for this purpose.

Two: Political action:

Just peace cannot be established in the region within the framework and course of the two Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The Camp David accords must be aborted and their vestiges eliminated. A strategic balance must be established with the Israeli enemy. The conference decides that the establishment of a just peace necessitates the achievement of the following:

A. Complete withdrawal from all Palestinian and occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.
B. Guaranteeing the Arab Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including the right to return, to determine their fate and to establish their independent state on their national soil in accordance with UN resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian issue and considering UN Security Council Resolution 242 as being inconsistent with Arab rights and not constituting a sound basis for solving the Middle East crisis, particularly the Palestinian issue.
C. Continuing to bolster the PLO -- the sole legitimate representative both inside and outside the occupied homeland -- and to bolster the Palestinian people's steadfastness.
D. The Arab governments must work to consolidate their international efforts within the framework of the United Nations and international conferences and organizations for the purpose of securing the widest support for Arab rights and for obtaining world support for the just struggle being waged by the Arab nation.
E. To achieve the goals of political Arab action, the Arab governments must be committed to unifying Arab ranks, clearing the Arab atmosphere and working to implement the Arab solidarity charter, particularly the sections on rspect for every state's sovereignty, noninterference in any state's internal affairs, respect for every state's territorial integrity and stopping propaganda campaigns among the Arab states.

Three: The stand on the Egyptian regime:

Continued application on boycott regulations against the Egyptian regime in accordance with the principles adopted by the Baghdad summit conferences in this regard until Egypt is freed from the Camp David accords and the treaty with the Israeli enemy.

Relations with the Egyptian regime are based first and foremost on the Egyptian Government's stand on the Camp David accords and the Israeli-Egyptian treaty. Thus, natural relations can only be established with any Egyptian Government on the basis of cancelling these accords and all their results. Furthermore, relations with the Egyptian regime are based on its stand on the pan-Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian issue. Thus, for Egypt to return to Arab ranks, the Arab states should work to bolster the Egyptian national forces opposing Camp David and its results. The conference calls on all Arab states to implement the Baghdad summit resolutions.

TALAS OBSERVES, PRAISES TACTICAL EXERCISE

JN302033 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Upon the instructions of Lt Gen Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and armed forces, one of our armored formations has carried out a tactical exercise in cooperation with various corps and with the participation of warplanes. The practical stage of the exercise was attended by Brig Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister; Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff for operations and training affairs; a number of general command senior officers and unit commanders in the Syrian Arab Army.

At the beginning of the exercises, Brig Gen Mustafa Talas was briefed on the stages of the exercise and its training targets. Then, combat forces began their offensive following softening up by artillery and warplanes.

These forces managed to penetrate the defenses of the mock enemy and destroyed its support points. Our air defense units repulsed the mock hostile warplanes and forced them from the battlefield.

The combat forces then developed an offensive in the rear of the mock enemy defenses and managed to foil all counterattacks. They then began to pursue the mock enemy's remnants until they reached their targets.

The conditions and atmosphere of the exercise were very close to those prevailing in a real combat operation.

The activities of the commanders and the participating units were characterized by alertness, firmness and efficient coordination, which helped them reach their targets.

At the end of the exercise, Brig Gen Mustafa Talas praised the efforts exerted by the commanders of the exercise, stressing that continuous training is essential to bringing about victory in our decisive battle against the usurping Zionist enemy.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES NEW SYRIAN AMBASSADORS

JN011257 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The following took the constitutional oath before President Hafiz al-Asad at 1130 today: Taha al-Khayrat, Syrian ambassador in Sofia; Ahmad 'Isa, Syrian ambassador in Rabat; 'Abd al-'Aziz Mashariqah, Syrian ambassador in Budapest; Faysal Summaq, Syrian ambassador in Berlin; Muwaffaq al-Qudsi, Syrian ambassador in Brussels; Muhammad (Khadr), Syrian ambassador in New Delhi; Sayf al-Hamawi, Syrian ambassador in Islamabad; and Muhammad al-Mahamid, Syrian ambassador in San'a', prior to their departure for their new posts.

After the constitutional oaths, the president met with the ambassadors and gave them his directives.

NO-CONFIDENCE MOTIONS ON U.S. MEMO SUBMITTED

TA011455 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpt] The Shinuy faction has joined the Alignment and Hadash in submitting a no-confidence motion in the Knesset. It says the government did not enable the Knesset to examine the memorandum of understanding with the United States and the hasty signing is liable to confront Israel with an accomplished fact containing far-reaching security implications.

Alignment Request

TA011633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The government is insisting that a debate be held tomorrow on the no-confidence motions submitted against it today. It has rejected the Alignment's request to replace the no-confidence debate with a debate on ratification of the strategic memorandum with the United States. The Prime Minister's Office has said that had the Alignment approached the government with this proposal this morning before submitting its no-confidence with this proposal this morning before submitting its no-confidence motion, the request could have been considered. However, from the moment no-confidence motions were submitted to the Knesset, the government was unwilling to accept the Alignment's suggestion.

The Tehiya faction has also submitted a motion of no-confidence in the government because of the signing of the strategic memorandum, and MK Ge'ula Kohen told our reporter that the faction would not forgo the debate and the vote even if the Alignment did so. No confidence motions have also been submitted by the Hadash and Shinuy factions. It appears, then, that the debate will be held tomorrow afternoon.

All factions are now rounding up their members for tomorrow's debate. Four ministers are being recalled from abroad, including the defense minister, who signed the memorandum in Washington. An agreement worked out this evening between the heads of the two large factions will make it unnecessary for Prime Minister Begin and MK Hayim Bar-Lev, who are now hospitalized [Bar-Lev for surgery on his leg] to show up for the vote.

Delay in Vote Upheld

TA020924 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The Knesset will discuss and vote on the motions of no confidence on the matter of the memorandum of understandingwith the United States at 1700 as the speaker had decided. The High Court of Justice has turned down an appeal by the Alignment faction to force the speaker to hold the voting at the normal time -- now. Our correspondent Ehud Klausner reports that lawyer Moshe Shahal, who representated the appellant -- fellow faction held at their correct time, arguing that Menahem Savidor's decision to postpone the session was a political move used as a government tool. Shahal said he did not accept the speaker's reasoning that the debate and voting had been postponed because of the noon remembrance ceremony for David Ben-Gurion in Sde Boqer and because it was necessary to wait until the defense minister returned from the United States so that he could, in the name of the government, reply to the motions of no confidence.

The director of the department of high courts in the Attorney General's Office backed the Knesset speaker, saying he was authorized to change the times of sessions and this was definitely a matter involving the Knesset's working procedures. The involvement of the High Court of Justice in this matter would, in her opinion, confuse judicial and legislative jurisdiction and would be a purely political move. After a conference of several minutes, as stated, judges Ben-Porat, Baraq and Levin decided to reject the appeal. They will publish their reasoning later.

SHARON COMMENTS ON STRATEGIC AGREEMENT CRITICISM

TA010803 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Evening newsreel report from Washington by Shalom Qital -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Qital] Today, when Defense Minister Sharon emerged from his meeting with Alexander Haig, we asked for Sharon's reaction to the criticism of the strategic agreement. We asked whey he had not sought the approval of the Knesset's Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee.

[Sharon] The decision-making process on the subject of the memorandum of understanding was a lengthy one. It began with the prime minister's visit last September and continued in his meetings with the U.S. President, with Secretary of State Haig and with Secretary of Defense Weinberger. Both sides carried out extensive staff work. Our delegations were here twice. I discussed the subject extensively with the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee when we returned after the September visit and a few days ago. The agreement undoubtedly places Israel on a totally different plane with respect to its international status, a position that many Israeli governments have striven to achieve. We will have no difficulty explaining the agreement's importance to the people of Israel and to their representatives in the Knesset, and this we shall do tomorrow. I am convinced the Knesset will approve the government's statement.

[Qital] That was Ari'el Sharon as he left the State Department. He has not gone to New York, and later tonight will depart for Israel.

Further Remarks

TA012038 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Interview of Israeli Defense Minister Sharon in Washington by correspondent Dan Raviv -- videotaped]

[Text] [Sharon] The strategic cooperation agreement undoubtedly raises Israel to a completely different level in regard to its international position, a situation numerous Israeli governments had sought to achieve in the past. We shall have no difficulty in explaining the importance of the agreement to Israel's people and its Knesset representatives, and this is what we will do tomorrow. I am convinced the Knesset will accept the government's statement.

[Question] Mr Sharon, how can you actually fight Soviet expansion in the Middle East without fighting an Arab state?

[Answer] I would not want to enter here into details of plans how to fight. We hope there will be no need to fight. We succeeded, after 30 years, in reaching a peace agreement with the largest Arab state. We believe it will be possible to extend the agreement in due time to additional states. But threats exist in the Near East and the Persian Gulf. They [presumably the Soviets] are seizing control over large areas in Africa; we find ourselves surrounded more and more by Soviet forces or by Soviet satellites.

[Question] As a result of this agreement, Mr Sharon, what will we be able to do now that we were not able to do yesterday? What will we do now that we were not able to do yesterday?

[Answer] I would not want to make light of what we are able to do. What we were able to do yesterday, we are able to do today and we shall be able to do tomorrow. This agreement is meant to offer an answer to dangers we see growing before our eyes and that will apparently exist in the next decade or two and the chief danger to Israel's existence: the danger of Soviet expansionism. This agreement undoubtedly aids us -- without going into details here, and it is impossible to go into details -- but it undoubtedly contributes in no small measure to the military and economic strengthening of Israel.

[Question] Mr Sharon, in regard to reciprocality: What are we to give now to the United States as a result of the agreement, and what do we expect to get or what shall we from it?

[Answer] All these subjects are to be worked out in the working teams which will meet in January.

RABIN SAYS STRATEGIC MEMORANDUM WORTHLESS

TA020736 Jerusalem POST in English 2 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by Knesset reporter Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Former Premier Yitzhaq Rabin said yesterday that "America's part in the strategic cooperation agreement is not worth the paper it is written on."

Speaking at the Alignment Knesset faction about today's no-confidence debate, Rabin said that the U.S. Constitution empowered the President only to use troops to come to the aid of U.S. citizens, or of countries having treaties with the U.S. which had been ratified by the Congress.

"The American undertakings in the strategic cooperation agreement are no more than a declaration of intent, and can have no operational substance in themselves," Rabin warned.

He said Israel had considered the Soviet Union to have enemy status in the past, but it had never envisaged sending IDF units out to fight the Soviet Union. The present government, however, was now obligated to help American troops operating against the Soviet Union in the Middle East.

Rabin said no previous government had decided anything similar, or entertained the idea, or signed any documents to that end. "I do not favour Israel and the U.S. signing a defense pact," he said.

On the basis of Israeli and American statements alike, the agreement does not entail any reciprocity, Rabin said.

Rabin said that although the U.S. was committed to buy $200 million-worth of military equipment from Israel, it had actually bought less than $20 million-worth.

MODA'I NOTES 'DEFICIENCY' IN STRATEGIC ACCORD

TA020848 Jerusalem POST in English 2 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] The U.S.-Israel strategic accord could make it less likely that the U.S. would come to Israel's aid with a military airlift in a future local war, as it did in the Yom Kippur war in 1973. This, says Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhaq Moda'i (Likud-Liberals), is a key "deficiency" in the accord.

The accord, Moda'i explained in an interview yesterday, specifies U.S.-Israel cooperation against forces "from outside the region." Governments sometimes seize on the written word in order to justify a narrow interpretation of their commitments, Moda'i said. A future U.S. Government could conceivably seize on thsi accord to justify withholding an airlift from Israel in the case of war with Syria, for example.

Moda'i said this "deficiency" had occurred to him only yesterday. Possibly, though, it was covered in a secret protocol which he understood was attached to the accord. "I'll ask Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and then I'll know," the minister said.

What would he do if the "deficiency" was not covered in a secret protocol? "Ever since my youth, I have never answered hypothetical questions," Moda'i replied.

Overall, he stressed, the accord was "very important.... it provides much, much more than the 1975 U.S. commitment to help us against the Russians. It is a very broad framework which the 1975 pledge was not. With time it can be filled with content. It provides military, economic and financial benefits."

The "deficiency" in respect of a future airlift "doesn't matter for now -- because Egypt is not part of the war ambit. And if, God forbid, in the future Egypt were to return to the war ambit, I would hope that by then the strategic accord would be much broader, and would include preoposition -- which would obviate the need for an airlift..."

On the other current foreign policy issue, Moda'i was opposed on Monday to the Cabinet's accepting the U.S.-Israel joint Sinai peace-keeping force. "But of course I now accept the Cabinet decision," he says. "I hope that the future vindicates it."

His own feeling was that "there is not only no need for the Europeans' participation in the force, there is also reason to fear that on balance, in the future, it could be actually detrimental."

On the tactical plane, moreover, he felt "that Israel can't keep buckling." Israel had taken a position (against the Europeans' participation -- because of their statements linking that participation to their pro-Palestinian policies) "and we could have held firm. There would not have been a crisis with the U.S."

In general, Moda'i asserted, there is unlikely to be any real crisis with Washington on such a relatively minor issue. Similarly, this administration "will not pressure us over Judaea and Samaria."

This was because the Reagan administration "which is hawkish, attaches great and far-reaching importance to Israel's strategic value," Moda'i explained. (He has just returned from a lengthy visit to the U.S.) "And not just in this area...after all, NATO itself is vulnerable, and the Soviets have more armoured divisions in the Caucasus which are not even taken into account in calculating the threat to Western Europe. Israel, which has 11 armoured divisions, according to the London Institute for Strategic Studies, has fought successfully against Soviet weapons in the past. It is virtually the only serious force to be reckoned with in the area.

"They won't pressure us over Judaea and Samaria because they realize that if the PLO is there, or even King Husayn, Israel's strategic value would be gravely depleted. We would have to devote all our military strength to defence and we would be unable to deploy our forces (as we can now)."

On the contention that the strategic accord could drag Israel into an alien war, Moda'i replied: "I deeply respect Yitzhaq Rabin (who raised the contention). But the time has come to take a broad view, not the perspective of a battalion. The defense of Israel today could be across the Iraqi or the Turkish border. And I stress, I'm talking about strictly Israeli interests. You don't defend your borders on those borders any more. That harks back to the Palmah...."

At the same time, Israel would not agree to put its forces at the disposal of the U.S. in any and every case --- "just as the U.S. would not help us if we sought to attack the Soviet base now being built in Syria which is designed to threaten turkey."

PRESS COMMENT ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

TA020842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 2 Dec 81

[From the review of the morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] HA'ARETZ writes that the way in which the government's agreement to Mr Sharon's trip to Washington was gained is worthy of sharp condemnation. However, even if the results Mr Sharon and his advisers achieved are far from their expectations, the value of the document as signed should not be denigrated.

The U.S. leadership could have turned down completely the Israeli initiative and not one of us could have criticized this. The willingness of the United States to sign a memorandum of understanding, with all its limitations, symbolizes goodwill toward Israel and the deepening of the friendly ties to it. The angry outburst from the PLO against the United States over the signing proves this. The Israeli public may not be convinced by the enthusiastic defense of the memorandum that the defense minister is to make in the Knesset, but it is doubtful there is any justification for the no-confidence motion in the government. Many people are asking themselves if Israel should demonstrate greater hostility to the Soviet Union than do the NATO countries, but the desire to strengthen links with the United States is one of the permanent factors in our public opinion and every party must take it into account.

DAVAR writes that the memorandum of understanding, with what is in it and what is not in it, was not examined or discussed in the government, in the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee or in the more restricted framework of the nation's elected representatives. It is true that this is not the first time fateful decisions have been made with unnecessary haste, as the paper phrases it, and bypassing the authorized platforms for responsible consideration, but this does not reduce the gravity of the affair. Israel took a far-reaching step on the decision of a tiny group of people, as though it were a dictatorship in which the ruler, with the advice of two or three advisers, makes decisions as he wishes. The method used -- that is, we will first commit ourselves and then discuss -- will not be borne in a democratic country and for this alone it is worth expressing no-confidence.

HATZOFE writes that the haste and panic of the Alignment in taking advantage of the sensitive issue of the memorandum to submit a no-confidence motion do not indicate national responsibility, but enthusiasm to undermine the government. It is not that there is no place to discuss this issue in the Knesset, but it would have been correct to wait for the return of the defense minister and hear a debate on the memorandum in the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee. Now, after the memorandum of understanding has been signed, the government ought to hold a widescale, basic discussion in order to guide Israel's representatives before the joint deliberations on the founding of genuine contents in the broad framework of the agreement.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the last thing Israel needs today is the agreement for cooperation with the United States. The boasting, as the paper phrases it, of Ari'el Sharon to the effect that no such agreement has been signed in Israel's history is perhaps meant to serve the Likud's propaganda, but strategic coordination cannot replace political coordination, which has not existed for a long time in the relations between the twc countries. When, in the not-too-far-distant future, the gap between the United States and Israel on this region's issues emerges, then we will realize that the strategic agreement will not benefit the country, but may seriously damage it.

HAMODI'A writes that quite a few questions can be raised over contents, substance and significance of the memorandum of understanding, because it leaves room for broader interpretation. It will be necessary to fill in the blanks deliberately left. Nevertheless, the government is entitled to note the agreement as a very important political achievement which will serve as a tool for bringing blessings in the future and that the opportune time should not have been missed.

The Jerusalem POST writes that opinions may differ, but Washington's purpose was most likely to be a low-profile strategic cooperation, while building up anti-Soviet strategic consensus with the moderate Arab states. Perhaps Washington also believed that it could take the sting out of the enmity between the Arabs and Israel. Mr Begin's intention, on the other hand, was to reduce any possible U.S. pressure on the Palestinian issue by the creation of a status for Israel as the major and indispensible ally of the United States in the Middle East. If these were their original plans, both governments may face bitter disappointment.

POLL SHOWS PUBLIC FAVORS STRATEGIC COOPERATION

TA020734 Jerusalem POST in English 2 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Mark Segal]

[Text] Tel Aviv -- Seventy percent of the public favors strategic cooperation with the U.S. Just under half would even consider having the IDF fight alongside the Americans to keep the Soviets out of the Middle East, even if it involved defending Saudi Arabia.

The above emerged from the latest Jerusalem POST poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrahi Applied Research Centre. A representative sample of 1,274 adults was questioned in the third week of November. Question: Are you for or against strategic cooperation with the U.S.? -- for -- 70.6 percent, against -- 24.3 percent, undecided -- 5.3 percent.

Centre Director Sara Shemer said that support for strategic cooperation with the U.S. embraced all sections of the public, crossing party lines, and with little difference between men and women, Oriental and Western communities and the social strata.

The pollsters asked the 70.6 percent favouring strategic cooperation, "Is it, or is it not, desirable for the IDF to actively participate alongside America in defending the Middle East from Soviet expansionism (including Saudi Arabia)?": yes -- 64.4 percent, no -- 32.9 percent, undecided -- 2.7 percent.

Shemer explained that this meant 46 percent of the public favoured an active role for the IDF in America's strategic design.

Among those favouring an active Israeli military involvement in U.S. strategy are a larger number of the traditional Oriental, proletarian backers of the Likud. Reservations grew stronger among the more educated.

GENERAL STRIKE IN GAZA PROTESTS CIVILIAN RULE

TA020813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] There is a general strike in the town of Gaza today protesting against the civilian administration brought in there yesterday. An announcement by the municipality says that the strike will continue for 2 days and is aimed against both the administration and the authorities' attitude toward the doctors' union.

The town's mayor, Rashad ash-Shawwa, told our correspondent, Arye Gus, that the civilian administration was nothing but a continuation of the conquest in civilian guise. He said Israel is worsening its attitude toward the Gaza Strip and the territories with the intention of destroying the social fabric of the area and forcing the people of liberal professions to leave it. He repeated the inhabitants' demand for self-determination and an independent state.

NEW SETTLEMENTS TO CLOSE BREACHES IN HEBRON HILLS

TA220758 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Nov 81 p 2

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] The Jewish Agency's Land Settlement Department is to establish four new settlements on the western slopes of the Hebron hills, within the green line, southeast of the Lakhish district.

The new settlements are: Amatzia, Nehosha, Sheqef and Kramim. They will be based on an agricultural infrastructure and will engage in the cultivation of vineyards for food and wine production. The designated areas for the new settlements, which are tillable, stretch over tens of thousands of dunams. Irrigation will be based on water with a relatively low saline content from the well's now being dug in the area.

The director-general of the Land Settlement Department, Yehuda Deqel, stressed that the new settlements -- which will cover the entire southern slopes of the Hebron hills, and which will join the recently established settlements of Karmel and Luzifer -- are designed to create a new settlement continuity aimed at closing breaches along both sides of the green line and to form part of the settlement bloc extending from Amatzia (near Lakhish) to the Dead Sea rift.

GOVERNMENT TO FINANCE ARAB DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

TA020727 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Israel will underwrite the entire cost of an Arab development project in Judaea and Samaria for the first time since the 6-day war. The money is earmarked for a development project in the village of Silwan and was approved by the head of the civilian administration, Menahem Milson. Until now, funding for all public projects in Judaea and Samaria came from Israel and Jordan and was later supplemented by money from the PLO. Last year Israel decided to halt the flow of money from Amman and the terrorist organization.

BRIEFS

POVERTY STATISTICS -- Poverty has increased in Israel over the last 3 years and the social gap between rich and poor has also broadened. This emerges from the annual report of the National Insurance Institute. Last year 37,900 families comprising 155,800 people lived "under the poverty line." The incomes of those families were less than 20 percent of the average. In 1980, 67,700 families comprising 282,500 people lived in conditions of poverty. With the aid of allowances some of them managed to rise above the "bread line" and only 37,900 families remained in the most difficult situation. The National Insurance Institute says the gap between rich and poor has increased enormously over the last 3 years and is now equal to that prevailing 10 years ago. Over the last year national insurance paid minimal existence allowance to 215,000 citizens. [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Nov 81 pp 1, 7 TA]

NEW IAI PLANT -- Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] will set up a plant in Qiryat Shemona, which will contribute to the introduction of high-technology industry to the upper Galilee, a company spokesman announced this week. The new plant will require highly trained manpower, and the Labour Ministry has been requested by IAI to locate suitable staff in the area and to provide training facilities. The training programme will initially be for 80 people. [Text] [Jerusalem POST in English 18 Nov 81 p 8 TA]

ALGERIA

FRANCE'S MITTERRAND ADDRESSES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

LD011448 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The French head of state delivered a speech this morning in the National People's Assembly. Throughout his speech, which lasted about 30 minutes, President Mitterrand reviewed the political and economic fields in which the two countries, due to their respective geopolitical positions, can develop their cooperation.

Speaking about the history of relations between Algiers and France, Mitterrand emphasized the tribute paid to the heroes of the Algerian revolution by him and his delegation and France's admiration for Algeria's determination to carry out the work of national development and for its achievements. Undoubtedly, President Mitterrand said, problems between us still exist but none of them is insurmountable. It is a matter of political determination.

After recalling the measures taken by his government to ensure the dignity and safety of Algerian immigrants whose contribution to the French economy he hailed, President Mitterrand indicated that everything points to the fact that economic cooperation between the two countries should be developed.

On the international plane, the head of the French state confirmed France's position regarding major international problems, notably those of decolonization and his country's ability to contribute to the OAU and UN efforts to ensure the people's self-determination.

The French head of state then reviewed the prospects of developing cooperation between France and Algeria and the framework supplied by the EEC for a new type of cooperation with Africa.

Regarding the problem of peace in the Mediterranean and in the world, Mitterrand said this can only be guaranteed through a balance of forces between East and West and the French president expressed satisfaction with the resumption of the Geneva talks on the reduction of Eurostrategic missiles.

President Mitterrand concluded by mentioning the real possibilities for the development of cooperation between Algeria and France and the two countries' desire to succeed in this.

AFP Account

NC011320 Paris AFP in English 1230 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Algiers, 1 Dec (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand today called for "exemplary cooperation" between France and Algeria in an address to the Algerian parliament. He said that none of the contentions between France and its former colony were insurmountable, and stressed the "many economic and cultural ties which have resisted trials and opposition."

In a reference to the crucial question of the price of Algerian gas supplied to France, which the Algerians want to link to oil prices, Mr Mitterrand said both countries had legitimate economic interests. Common ground must be found to enable serious negotiations to begin.

On the problems of Chad, Western Sahara and the Middle East Mr Mitterrand reaffirmed France's desire to contribute towards peace without interfering, and its respect for the "right of every people to self-determination." But he warned that a solution to the Western Sahara conflict, where Algeria is backing the Polisario nationalists against Morocco, "becomes more difficult every day, with the risk of attracting wider rivalries to the region."

Mr Mitterrand had two rounds of talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid after his arrival here yesterday. The gas problem was expected to be the main feature of today's conversations.

Joint Statement

NC011910 Paris AFP in English 1852 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Algiers, 1 Dec (AFP) -- France and Algeria can contribute jointly (?toward the) "new (?international) order needed for safeguarding peace and security in the world," according to a joint statement published here at the end of French President Francois Mitterrand's two-day visit to Algiers.

The statement said that the two countries rejected "international relations based on the use of force, on the desire to dominate or abuse," and called for the "scrupulous respect of the (?equality) of states, their sovereignty, their integrity and their national values."

Problems of peace and security, disarmament and development required global solutions, the two countries said, declaring themselves opposed to any extension to the system of political and ideological blocs.

Both countries declared their wish to see new ways of international economic cooperation, noting that Third World states did not all have the same [word indistinct] for development.

The statement denounced "all forms of interference" and condemned "imperialism, racism and apartheid."

ALGIERS: U.S.-MOROCCO STRENGTHEN 'ALLIANCE'

LD020000 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The deputy director of the CIA is in Morocco. According to AFP, Adm Bobby Inman had talks with several high ranking Moroccan officials. This visit will be followed by the defense secretary whom the king will receive in Fes on Thursday.

It is true that since the defeat at Guelta Zemmur we have been witnessing visits between Washington and Rabat. In fact, the traditional alliance between the United States and Morocco has been greatly strengthened since the beginning of this year. The trend of this strengthening was intensified with the assumption of power by the left in France last spring. As this important event deprived Rabat of the unconditional support which Paris previously accorded it, King Hassan II and President Reagan agreed on the logic of an alliance between their respective countries and agreed to review the forms of their strategic cooperation in order to maintain imperialist hegemony in northwest Africa. It is for this reason that several (?decisions) seem to have been made to make the U.S. commitment to Morocco more direct than in the past.

ASH-SHA'B: U.S. STYMIES USSR-EUROPEAN CONTACTS

PM301121 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Nov 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Paralyzed Will"]

[Text] The meeting in Bonn today between Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is not the first between the leaders of the two countries. But since the meeting was announced, it has been the subject of intensive comment in Western media and particularly the U.S. media, which have seen it as a Soviet attempt to create a crack in the NATO alliance and to neutralize Europe in the current conflict between the two superpowers.

Although the U.S. stand was to be expected and falls within the general course of a policy of total confrontation with the Eastern Bloc, it also reveals the nature of U.S. policy which is hostile to any East-West rapprochement. It further shows that the slogans which U.S. policy is putting forward at the Madrid Conference on European Security and Cooperation are false slogans aimed at misleading world opinion.

A few years ago, Washington did its utmost to abort the Ostpolitik which former Chancellor Willy Brandt adopted and saw every step he took in the direction of the East as a threat to its own domination of the "Free World."

Inasmuch as this U.S. stand toward Soviet-European rapprochement is based on purely strategic military calculations, it also stems from the U.S. desire to keep West Europe under the American nuclear umbrella, with no political will of its own. Washington's objective in this paternalist domination of Europe is to prevent it from emerging as a distinct political power. The blustering by the U.S. media and the statement by U.S. officials about the "great danger" threatening Europe are only a kind of psychological warfare whose arm is to crush the European political will and perpetuate the story of the Soviet "bogey."

The time that Reagan has chosen to announce his message to Brezhnev regarding strategic arms limitiation and his deliberate submission of proposals which he knows in advance are unacceptable and will be rejected by the other side are probably not unconnected with the meeting which will take place today between the Soviet president and the West German chancellor. Moreover, in addition to portraying the United States as caring for Europe's interest, this tactic also deprives Schmidt of a precious card in his negotiations with Brezhnev. It also turns the question of the SS-20 and the Pershing II missiles into a matter primarily concerning Washington and Moscow, which is consistent with Washington's view of the FRG's status as "an economic giant but a political midget."

Thus Washington's real objective is to abort every attempt at rapprochement between Europe and the Eastern bloc with the aim of deploying more U.S. nuclear missiles on European territory and turning Europe into a field of confrontation regardless of the peaceful sentiments of the European peoples, who have suffered two world wars and know very well the risks, horrors and miseries of a third war.

LIBYA

JANA VIEWS U.S.-ISRAELI COOPERATION AGREEMENT

LD012100 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Dec (JANA) -- The Zionist enemy today expressed its pleasure at signing the minutes of an agreement on strategic cooperation with the United States. This agreement meets Zionist demands for consecration of the occupation and for carrying out further aggressions against the Arab nation. Furthermore, under this agreement, the enemy obtained numerous guarantees.

The Zionist war minister, the terrorist Ari'el Sharon, has affirmed that the agreement places Israel on an international level never before attained.

Commenting on this, the JANA political affairs editor writes: It has now been confirmed beyond any doubt that the friends of the United States are the friends of Israel. This is one of the historic facts which manifest itself in the sphere of the Arab-Zionist conflict. The Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah affirmed this fact previously and warned of its consequences. It also warned against accepting that the United States wants peace, that it possesses miracles and that it has the ability to find a solution which will satisfy the Arabs and doesn't favor the enemy.

By his true revolutionary vision, which stems from the realities of the constant struggle against the Zionist enemy and his lackeys, the brother commander of the revolution has warned that the United States is the enemy of all the Arabs and that it is totally aligned with the Zionist enemy since it persists, by all ways and means, in bolstering the enemy to enable him to continue with his aggression against the Arab nation. The United States has sparked fires in the Arab region to escalate differences and rifts and to create shaky agent regimes which it uses as agents under various conditions to propagate the policy of capitulation and as obedient tools calling for recognition of the enemy. Thus the United States has succeeded in creating regimes which are in league with it, to bolster its oppressive policy of bolstering the enemy and supplying him with all the destructive weapons he needs to carry out his aggression against the Arab nation.

Reassured by the absence of unified Arab action and a specific Arab strategy, the United States feels that the atmosphere is favorable for it to reveal its hidden intentions of exploiting the deteriorating Arab conditions and the differing Arab stands -- caused by the languor of some of the regimes -- and to show its face in the arena of conflict as a direct enemy of the Arab nation and its historic rights. Through its strategic agreement with the enemy, the Zionist enemy, the United States has given itself the ability to act openly and flagrantly to frustrate all Arab hopes and ambitions. This agreement will provide it with a new springboard for launching aggressions against the Arab nation, for defending Israel and for giving it all guarantees enabling it to continue to occupy Palestine and the Arab territories.

Thus, the strategic agreement places our Arab nation face to face with a more serious threat to its future and with new dangers threatening the Arab homeland and the freedom of its peoples. This alliance is directed mainly against the Arab homeland. It will encourage the enemy to continue to occupy the Arab lands by force. It will enable him to commit aggressions against the Arab states. It will enable the United States to escalate its terrorist military presence in the Arab area and provide it with the opportunity to directly seize Arab resources.

In conclusion, the JANA political affairs editor asks: After all this, can the propagators of the policy of capitulation continue to do so and to claim that the United States is the friend of the Arabs or will they submit to the logic of revolution and history which affirms that the United States and Israel are one and the same thing and that the friends of the United States are the friends of Israel.

MESSAGES DENOUNCE U.S. MILITARY MANEUVERS

Ethiopian Leader

NC010806 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The leader of the revolution has received a message from Chairman Negistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in socialist Ethiopia, affirming that the socialist republic of Ethiopia strongly condemns the terrorist war maneuvers being carried out by the U.S. forces in the Arab area.

In his message to the leader, Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam affirmed that the terrorist U.S. maneuvers aim at creating instability for peoples and suppressing anticipated revolutionary activities. He stressed that the exercises in the Indian Ocean, the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and in the Arab Gulf were part of a chain of provocative savage U.S. moves.

Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam added that the terrorist U.S. provocations, which have a savage aggressive character, are not only directed against the Jamahiriyah, the Democratic Yemen and Ethiopia but also against the progressive states and the peace-loving peoples.

Seychelles President

NC011332 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The brother leader has received a message from the president of the Seychelles, Albert Rene, in which he denounced the U.S. maneuvers now being held in the Arab region. He said these maneuvers are an act of terrorism carried out by U.S. imperialism to undermine security and stability in this region.

AL-QADHDHAFI, 'ARAFAT PRESENT MEDALS TO TROOPS

LD281549 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Brother Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, at the end of the celebration of the return of the Libyan Arab liberation forces from Chad, distributed medals and award certificates among a number of officers and men who helped end the civil war in Chad.

Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Brother Yasir 'Arafat and Polisario Secretary General Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz participated in the distribution of medals.

The celebration was attended by the commander in chief of the armed forces, Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Brother Yasir 'Arafat, Polisario Secretary General and Chairman of the SDAR Revolution Command Council Mohamed Abdelaziz and a number of Libyan Armed Forces senior officers and heads of the political missions accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

The celebration began with the Allah Akbar anthem after which the supreme commander of the armed forces gave the signal for starting the military parade of the forces which secured victory for the cause of freedom in Chad. These forces brought security and stability to the Chadian people who suffered for a long time from civil war. They carried out the death order in accordance with the principle adopted by the Libyan people to give support to the cause of freedom everywhere.

Since the early hours of this morning, the popular masses rallied to the place of celebration to welcome their armed forces, who have returned from Chad with full pride, and mingled with them, thereby expressing the Libyan people's sure conviction of their duty to grant support to the cause of freedom to which our people pledged themselves in the declaration of the proclamation of the people's authority and the establishment of the Jamahiriyah.

Formations of the air force and air defense, units of As-Sa'iqah, the intelligence, tanks, desert vehicles and frogmen -- forces which not only ended the war in Chad but also secured freedom in Chad and ended the pains of the fraternal Chadian people and provided medical and food relief to the Chadians who had been rendered destitute by imperialism and the agents and suffered diseases and poverty for many long years -- also took part in the parade.

ADDITION TO 28 NOV AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESS

In the item entitled "Al-Qadhdhafi Marks Return of Troops From Chad" published in the 30 November Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT, Page Q 6, after graf 2, insert:

"Brothers, it has become apparent to the world who is fighting for the cause of freedom and who is fighting to suppress freedom. It has been established before the world who defends human principles and protects peace and who threatens peace and threatens mankind. Brothers, through your return today and through our welcoming you back today in this place, in front of the ambassadors of foreign states and before the entire world, it has become clear to the world and has been proven that Libya is not an aggressor state, an invader or (?an oppressor) and it has no intention of occupying Chad or humiliating its people. Libya wants to champion the triumph of freedom. Today, it has fought for the Chadian people and has given them the liberated territory.

"As for what happens afterward to safeguard that liberated soil, the soil you have liberated with your blood, this is the responsibility of the Government of Chad which, brothers, we believe has been trapped into a big international conspiracy. Both President Goukouni Oueddei and the Chad Transitional Government have fallen into this trap. The conspiracy was hatched in Paris, Washington and in certain reactionary African circles. The Government of Chad was duped. And now I regret to announce that the eastern half of Chad has been occupied by the forces which had been defeated by these Libyan forces, who seized that land inch by inch and gave the land back to the Chad people and the Transitional Chad Government. The rebellious forces have now reoccupied all of the positions liberated by the Libyan forces.

"We now declare that we take a neutral stand on the Chadian parties. At this moment, we do not discriminate between the Chadians at home and those abroad. We will not make a distinction between rightwing and leftwing Chadians. From the military aspect, we adhere to neutrality and will never interfere if fighting breaks out again in Chad. What we want to say is that we will never turn our backs on Chad. Today, the Libyan people must continue to discharge this historic duty and continue to play this role. They must not lose the gains achieved by these soldiers who have left the graves of their martyrs in Ndjamena (?Bishaya), (Asia) and (Bashshah).

"What we want to say is that the time for economic aid has come. Libya has never given Chad any financial or economic aid. We used to give aid to the Frolinat movement as a combatant movement outside the authority in power. After Frolinat assumed power and the civil war broke out, we entered with military forces. We entered with these forces which ended the civil war, liberated Chad inch by inch and handed it back to the Chad National Government. However, we did not give any economic aid. While they are debating the domestic and foreign policies through the meetings of the basic people's congresses, we ask the Libyan people to add economic aid to Chad to their agenda."

MOROCCO

HASSAN PRESS CONFERENCE AT END OF ARAB SUMMIT

LD281628 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 28 Nov, 1158 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Press conference held by King Hassan II in Fes 27 November]

[Text] Fes, 28 Nov (MAP) -- "Ladies and gentlemen, I shall not make a preliminary statement; I prefer to conclude the debates by a declaration, but I shall first say that tradition requires that every time a summit conference is held in a country, it reverts to the head of state of this country, I would not say the redoubtable but the extremely delicate duty and obligation to address the international press in order to draw the conclusions of the conference works and thus avoid any equivocacy that may mislead the international public opinion. I am at your disposal to answer your questions.

Question: Majesty, it is too early to speak of what should have been done before the summit as it is premature to speak of the future. Could Your Majesty help us understand what would happen in the coming months on the Arab scene and more especially in Lebanon?

Answer: It is certain that we can comment on and draw the conclusions concerning the works that preceded the opening of the summit. We cannot make too hasty a judgement on what will be the continuation and the carrying out of the summit. But concerning the period of suspension, because it is finally a suspension, there is here an important difference on the judicial level. On the other hand, it is rather problematic to know what will happen between, let us say, the two half-times of this summit. First, it seems to me that logically, Arab countries should consult each other and exchange information and appreciations. In my opinion, they should mainly use this period of time to thoroughly examine what is going around in the world and draw conclusions, so that when the time comes, the second part of the summit would [word indistinct] from that the maximum of teachings and benefits.

Concerning Lebanon, we have only one thing to do: to see how the resolutions which had been unanimously adopted on Lebanon will be implemented on the one hand, and how they will be accepted on the other, because the Lebanese problem is finally synallagmatic, bilateral. It is not a matter for the Arabs or for the Arab League to take decisions and measures. It is furthermore necessary that the Lebanese people, and when I say the Lebanese people, I mean the people, whatever its political tendencies, and whatever its confessions, it is necessary that the Lebanese people decide, once and for all, to be master at home, sovereign, taking in hand its own destiny, and by doing so, the concerned parties should all accept some compromises. I think that the secretary general of the Arab League was mandated by the summit to implement the pertinent resolutions that have been adopted in this respect. I finally hope that... the Lebanese people who had given the proof that Arabs, be they Muslims, Christians, Sunnis, Maronites or other, were able not only to coexist, but to coexist harmoniously, giving thus the proof of the significance of civilization, namely tolerance. We hope then that the Lebanese people will take into consideration the efforts that were made by the Arabs and the efforts they are ready to make. But in the final analysis, it is up to the Lebanese people to take the most important decisions.

Question: The Arab summit conference was considered as a successful step to avoid Arab division at a moment when an atmosphere of despair is reigning in the Arab region and at a moment Arabs gave proof of their incapacity to assume their historical responsibilities in this decisive and delicate stage, especially when certain Arab countries have joined Israel to reject Prince Fahd's plan.

Majesty, what is the future of Arab summits, how do you see the Arab future and what would be the destiny of Prince Fahd's plan?

Answer: In fact, the summit was suspended not because we had divergencies, but was suspended like a judiciary audience would be, as more information was needed. Incontestably, Arab states want peace, for one should distinguish between peoples that are warriors and people who are bloodthirsty.... We are a people of warriors but we can also be peaceful; this is not incompatible. So the Arab peoples decided to have a pause for complementary information.

Prince Fahd's plan, no matter what one says of it, is not a monstrosity or an affair both from a single man's inspiration. Prince Fahd simply took the initiative to make the effort that we, his colleagues, did make, i.e. to gather and assemble all the points on which the various Arab summit conferences, since 1973 up to now, were in complete agreement about. He had therefore enumerated them. His merit is to have done this compilation that, let us say, no Arab head of state, including myself, have thought of doing. And if we have just now taken the eight points of the Saudi project, there is no heresy, there are no new points at all. All the points, from the very first to the eighth have been tackled and evoked, and have received, not their solution, but at least the orientation they deserved during the various Arab summit conferences since 1973, after the [Yom] Kippur war (October war).

What would happen to the Saudi plan? I think that those who do not agree with it, because they have misunderstood it or because they did not understand its concatenations or articulations, will make the effort of consulting their friends, foremost of all Saudi Arabia, to have clarifications. And I am certain that after this period, which will be one of prospection and research of a healthy, serious and straightforward truth, I am more or less certain that Arab countries will reach a minimum of agreement on a minimum of points.

The seventh point in the Fahd plan seems to have been the apple of discord. How do you personally analyse this point and what is the analysis of the other Arab brothers? On the other hand, is the Fahd plan addressed to Arab countries in view of convincing the other countries of the capacity of Arabs to take an adequate stand or is it addressed to foreign powers in order to obtain a visa to the Arab commitment and perhaps to the commitment of Israel?

A: The project which was submitted to us is a whole and trying to separate a point from the others is, in my opinion, an extremely deadly [word indistinct] act for the project. To tell you that it is the seventh point or the first or the third point which is the most criticized would be inopportune. We have suspended the summit to take enough time to thoroughly examine the Saudi plan, for, and this is of major importance, we have been seized with this plan only three days before the conference. This made us ask the secretary general to inscribe a new deontological rule in our procedure, namely, that the meeting of foreign affairs ministers must precede by one month at least the meeting of the heads of state.

This would allow us to find out about the points raising divergences, enable ministers to report to their heads of state who in turn would make contacts with those disagreeing with them. So, we have been officially seized of the Saudi project, and this is quite normal, only at the time when foreign affairs ministers (?met).

It was difficult, then, to hope or to believe that such a major program could, immediately or in the future, be accepted and digested by countries spreading from the Atlantic to the Gulf. So, I will stress neither the seventh point nor the eighth point. Maybe a certain press, absent or present here, will be very happy to find in my declarations the source of a division which has not taken place for we all agreed on suspending the summit and this is very important, so I would not like to discuss the seventh point nor the first point nor which of [words indistinct] caused opposition of such a head of state to another. Besides, it was not discussed (?by) the heads of state.

The Saudi project, and this is one of the reasons which made the summit suspend its works, is not addressed to these or those but to the whole world to show that Arabs who were vindictive and showed bellicosity are also able, thanks to their civilization and history, to project a future of civilization, a future where men no matter their religion, no matter their colour, can bring their share to human wellbeing in peace. Beyond such or such an objective, there is, to my belief, an important thing. The objective of the Saudi plan is to corner the common enemy, compel it, at least once, to unveil, and say whether Israel is or is not in danger of peace, as has been written. We want to know whether peace suits the internal situation of the state of Israel or if it disturbs them. To my belief, now it is up to the others to make the next move especially if Arabs make decisions in their summits (?to) make them official.

Q: After this semi-summit, we had the impression, Your Majesty, that you had placed great hopes on this Arab summit and that you hoped, along with many Moroccans, that it would bring forth a sensible progress towards a solution of the overall Middle East question. How do you judge the situation now after this short session? Do you feel that there was however some progress? Do you believe that the positions have been clarified? And do you also believe that there has been no rupture or semi-rupture, but on the contrary, the people (Arab leaders) were able to appreciate their respective arguments?

A: I rejoice at this part of the summit as a household would rejoice at the announcement of a pregnancy. It is the first joy and we await the child's birth. Therefore, we cannot but rejoice at this first phase, and we will do everything so that the pregnancy be smooth and the child be born in the best conditions.

But I can assure you that there is no fracture of bones nor rupture period. Personally ... indeed, many of my colleagues told me, but what would one think, this has never happened. [sentence as received]. I asked them was it a stance of wisdom, is the fact to turn inward a bit and think things over.... Everybody agreed.

So I think that the suspension, and I repeat, suspension and not interruption of this summit means that we have nonetheless chosen the right looking classes to regard the posed problem and that we have made no (?appreciable) errors concerning the vision on the one hand, and intellectual appreciation of the problem on the other.

I personally rejoice at the suspension of this summit. Naturally, I would have been happy to have Arab heads of state and government by my side, that we be able, at the closing session, to give the results of our works, but in my opinion, politics is a bit like agriculture: It obeys seasonal variations, a certain maturation, and we considered that the fruit was not ripe yet and that it would be sinful on our part to pick it before the suitable and opportune moment.

Q: Majesty, could you tell us about your talks of yesterday with the Algerian minister of foreign affairs and whether we can expect an amelioration of relations between the two countries as a consequence?

A: I will not dwell on the subject. When I am cross with someone and mean to remain so, I do not receive him, I just have him told. The foreign affairs minister of Algeria came to see us. We received him just as President Chadli received our foreign affairs minister in a spirit much more positive and conciliating than before. I do not want to tell you more.

Q: Majesty, the French president, Mr Francois Mitterrand, will visit Algeria in the two coming days. Aren't you disappointed that he will visit Algeria in the first place and then perhaps, Morocco? Do you think that France could play a role in the Moroccan-Algerian rapprochement which could put an end to the conflict of the Western Sahara?

A: Why be jealous? The French president is not living with his concubines. He visits whom he chooses, when he chooses.

I would even wish that he begins with Algeria. To start with Morocco or Algeria, he would only talk to the ones and to the others of peace, entente and cooperation. I remember, if memory does not fault me, that the French president had spoken of a visit to Algeria during his campaign, and it is quite normal the President Mitterrand remains faithful to the promises made by candidate Mitterrand. On the other hand, I have, with the French president, close and even politically intimate relations through telephone calls and personal messengers.

Q: It is somehow the question I intended to ask you. I will phrase it differently, when President Mitterrand was elected, Morocco one would say was among the countries which would ask themselves questions....

His Majesty: For what reason?

Journalist: I cannot allow myself to polemize but I believe that....

A: The Moroccan Government did not need to ask itself questions since it is a full fledged member of the Socialist International and the socialist inter-African [as received]. Maybe it was other countries that could have asked themselves this question. We, we do not need to ask ourselves this question.

Q: Could I ask you to pass a judgement on the first months of (French) President Mitterrand's seven-year term, naturally in the context of Franco-Moroccan relations?

A: If you want I could grant you an interview on Franco-Moroccan affairs, but I fear leave the subject, at least out of respect for all those who are interested in Arab affairs. There is a lot to say on Franco-Moroccan relations and I would be very happy to talk with you on that, especially if you bring along an official from "Radio France Internationale." I too could ask him questions on his daily bulletin on Morocco.

Q: Majesty, you know that numerous was the press who talked about the failure of this summit. When we talk of failure, we know that it was premature. I would like to ask two questions:

Why the heads of Arab states took the risk to summon a summit while they could think that it was premature? Are there any chances that may make you hope things would change rapidly?

A: We must first say that the decision to summon this summit had been made a year ago in Amman, and each year after the summit conference we design the place where the next summit will be held. Thus, it was decided that we would meet in Morocco in November 1981.

The heads of state met and it is not because there is one or two topics of the agenda that are not completely mature that we must cancel the summit.

Therefore, if among the advantages of this summit there had been only the fact that the whole world became aware that Arab states were conscious and aware of their role in restoring peace, well, the summit and its suspension would have been sufficient.

To talk of semi-failure, there has not been semi-failure. If there were a failure or semi-failure, we would not have decided to meet here after, and the fact of having designated the country, this very country where the summit has been suspended, proves how much everybody was envious to meet again to see that the criteria, the premises and the conclusions of certain problems and projects have meanwhile taken a definite form.

Q: Do you believe that an Arab initiative may have chances before Egypt returns to the Arab ranks and how do you see the chances of a rapprochement between Egypt and the Arab League?

A: That is the object of meetings and concertations that will be held by our ministers of foreign affairs to try to fix the date of the next Arab summit. Anyway, it is excluded that it will be held in a year, and that the summit will resume its works before April 1982 or after. The heads of state have just left today. It is the work of our foreign ministers to concert in order to agree on the most opportune date for the summit.

Q: It seems that a number of Arab countries are now ripe for a peace process and others are not. Can you account for this? Some Arab countries seem to have been irritated by the decision of some European countries to send forces to the Sinai. What is their exact stand?

A: I will answer the second question first. Indeed, some Arab countries have been irritated by the will of some European countries to participate in the international force in the Sinai. It is a matter we have discussed and I will frankly say that the session was not interrupted in order to make contract with each other. I am for their presence; others are against it. Those who are for or against, have not yet had time to confront ideas and try to convince each other, and I cannot tell what the decision will be. I hope the decision will let European countries come to the Sinai for this will be one more commitment on the part of European countries, and this is my personal point of view. I do not know what the conference will decide.

Q: Would it not be a recognition of the Camp David accords?

A: When you are eating a fruit, you never enquire about the person who planted its tree. Being in the Sinai is one thing, and the recognition of Camp David is another thing. To my belief, when it comes to guaranteeing the liberation of an Arab territory, its peaceful, non-equivocal and continuous return to an Arab territory. We are very far from treason, as its said about Camp David.... This is my opinion. We will tackle this later.

It is not a matter of countries which are ripe and countries which are not. There are optimistic countries and pessimistic ones and I must say that the Middle East crisis is nothing after all but a grave and deep historic crisis of trust. Thus, we have the Arab countries, those of the confrontation mainly, which more than once have been had and which no longer trust the Israeli party, and there are others which, I do not say they lack confidence, believe that with time helping and all human, economic and social bills paid by all parties, the Israeli party will display a better understanding of the priorities of the region. We can not say some are ripe for peace and others are not.

There are, on the one hand, those which do not believe, and they are right, and on the other hand, those which do not believe but are ready to believe, but all of us, just like Saint Thomas, would like to see.

Question: I would like to ask your majesty if the recent battles of "Guelta Zemmour" and of "Mseid" have not clouded the bright peace perspectives foreseen by the first and the second Nairobi summits? How far has the famous referendum project got?

With your majesty's permission, my second question is: Your prime minister, Mr Bouabid, has recently spoken before the Moroccan parliament of your claims over Sebta and Melilla. Has it not been practically agreed upon with Spain that you would resume talks on this problem at the very moment Spain formulates claims on Gibraltar? In other words, was the moment well chosen to raise these claims again?

Answer: I have said earlier that I will avoid as much as possible to speak about Moroccan problems, regional problems, for tradition wants that this press conference, held after the summit, have as objective and theme, the summit's works and not the preoccupations of a country or a region. However, to oblige you, I will answer in two words, peace perspectives, far from receding and being clouded, are getting closer and materializing. The referndum will take place during the first semester of 1982. This is what we wish and what we want.

Finally, concerning Sebta and Melilla the prime minister, for as you know the prime minister's declaration is read out before the Council of Ministers that the king presides over.... The prime minister's declaration spoke of Moroccan towns, all Moroccan towns, by citing and quoting statements that I had myself uttered few months earlier. Therefore, the prime minister only recalled what the king of Morocco had said few months earlier.

Question: If economic issues were figuring in the summit's agenda, could I ask Your Majesty about your opinion on the importance and the evolution of economic cooperation in the Arab, Islamic and African worlds?

Answer: There was effectively a number of questions concerning cooperation possibilities in the agenda. Cooperation exists; it exists bilaterally but it is not as organized as we wish it to be at the level of Arab League member countries. But we have considered that political problems had priority over other problems, and that it why we did not want to tackle the agenda, because this would have led to dispersion of our thoughts and our decisions. And we decided to postpone everything to the next phase of the summit.

Question: Your Majesty, let us switch back to the summit. We all know there is a cleavage between Arab countries of different ideologies which blocs summit conferences. If this cleavage exists, can we, in this line of reasoning, be optimistic about the next summit? Will it be possible to overcome the difficulties which have faced this summit?

Answer: First of all, the cleavage in Arab countries concerning what is taking place in Europe, is not an ideological cleavage. You will find countries said to be from the right with countries said to be from the left. The criteria of cleavage is first of all the neighbourhood, the fact of being or not being among the confrontation countries. Let us take the example of Syria, a country with a one-party-system, and, let us say, a progressist regime; well, Syria is in the same position as Morocco, for Morocco too is a country of the confrontation. We have fought (?there and we) are ready to fight again.

The cleavage for us is not an ideological one, it is a cleavage of circumstances of neighbourhood and necessity. And if some divergences show, as I said in my opening speech, they are not related to the objective but rather to the means. These divergences are related to the steps and methods. For countries like Oman, at the far end of the Arabic Peninsula or South Yemen cannot have the same ideas or can have different ideas to reach this objective. Anyway, the objective is the same and if there is a unity of objective we now need a unity of procedure. This unity of procedure we want to reach and for which we have this spell of time for reflexion and complementary information, as I said in the beginning, needs further consultations.

Question: The Arab League's Council of Ministers has expressed in its recommendations at the summit the hope for a closer cooperation with Africa to the south of the Sahara. If one considered from among these resolutions that granting the Organization of African Unity the privileged statute of observer, one could say that the summit of Fes is more decided than in the past to establish a true solidarity bridge between the peoples of black Africa and the Arab peoples. Would Your Majesty comment on these two important decisions and explain to us their implications as well?

Another question: The evolution of the Middle East problem since the summit of Fes, that is to say 48 hours ago, is the event most closely followed in Tel Aviv. Would it not be likely to jeopardize the evacuation by Israel of Sinai next April, as foreseen by the Camp David accords? And if so, how should, in your opinion, the United States and Egypt react?

Answer: I believe that Arab-African cooperation made a bad start because Africa is a vast continent. Enormous disparities exist among African countries concerning their size, their needs. Unfortunately, there is no organizing instrument for this Arab-African cooperation. The OAU by itself is not enough. If we could agree, at the political level, on a number of issues at the continental level, I maintain that only concertations at a regional level -- on economic issues, and the constitution of regional bodies could allow this Arab-African cooperation to have the necessary impact.

Let us take the example of populations living on either banks of the Senegal River. There, Arab aid could be valid, for it concerns a vital project for many countries.

Let us for example take the case of the problem concerning the enclavement of a number of countries in south-east Africa. There, the impact could be important. But when we ask Arab countries, regardless of their wealths and their surplus of hard currencies, to grant aid just like that, like a Maecenas to, a continent as vast as Africa, having so diverse socio-economic regimes as we do....

As we say here in Morocco, divide an ocean and you will have streams. This is why it is necessary that, during the coming OAU summit, we dwell on this economic regionalization of Africa. We should not do it (regionalization) at the ("political") level, because it will be useless. On the contrary, at the economic level there are integrated projects that could interest three or four countries, then the impact of Arab-African cooperation will appear in its true form.

As to the second question, it is certain that these past times as you say a certain irritation was felt in Tel Aviv, not only today. Even during the electoral campaign for Israeli legislative elections, some even campaigned on the possibility or the eventuality for Israel, if this cabinet remained or that other came, to respect or not respect Camp David and its concluding.

It is certain that if the Israelis did not respect the (Camp David) accords, the United States would be in a bad position, but the Egyptians would have to draw, the consequences stemming from it, and it would be, in my opinion, a monumental error on Israeli's part not to go to the end of the Camp David, for the distance covered make of it a prisoner of the Camp David accords. It is more than just the arm that is engaged and more than the torso, it is also two-thirds of its (Israel's) body that are engaged in this process, and not to terminate it would, in my opinion, be fatal for its credibility in the years to come, not to say the months, in the years.

Question: Majesty, I know that you are a pragmatic and modern man and that you answer frankly. You have said that the conference was not a failure. For us it was a catastrophe. The Arab world is divided more than ever.... Begin is in the seventh heaven....

Answer: Begin is in the seventh heaven?

Question: Yes.

Answer: They told me that he was in the hospital (laugh).

Question: (...) and we have been hoping for a long time that the Palestinian issue be settled and now all the friends of the Arab cause are so worried about what happened in the conference.

Answer: I think that precisely. I was not the only one to decide. My friends and myself had yesterday felt that we were going to begin talking like you, with the heart. We had for a long time talked with the heart. We must now talk otherwise and think out ideas thoroughly, and sometimes it is good to put ideas under the pillow and sleep on it a little time.

I ask you to be in the future a little bit confident in Arab wisdom and I understand what you could have thought.... God, it is the first time that a conference is postponed; it has never happened. So I did not want that we work for three days to give aspiring to our peoples, to say that everything is all right as usual, to continue to deceive our people as usual -- because when we talk about Al-Quds, when we talk about the Western Bank, when we talk about the Gaza Strip and the Sinai it was because the late 'Abd an-Nasir, may God have mercy on his soul, had lied to his people, and to the Arab peoples for 13 years, and we are now in 1981 paying all the lies and all the meanness. Of all the other Arab countries who followed this, no one had the courage to say no except Morocco.

When I went to Egypt, he made all he could to prevent me from going to Germany, because Germany had sold tanks to the Israelis, but I went to Germany all the same. But if peoples had the courage to say no to Nasir, he would not have driven out the UN peace-keeping force from Aqaba, Al-Quds, and there would still be the Muslim and Arab authority. The holy sites would not be occupied, the Gaza Strip and the Sinai would not be occupied, so it is enough talking with this (indicating the heart).

We have decided in Fes that we are adults and that we should think with our heads finally. All you wanted to know about the conference you did. It is not a failure, it is not an interruption, it is a simple suspension. We are going to meet again before June. Is it before or after Camp David? I do not know. Here is an important question: What do the Palestinians think? Will the Palestinians are wise, they have courageously for forty years and they can still give us three or four months to think seriously. [sentence as received]

Question: Could we say that the absence of Syria from the 'summit' constitutes the major reason for suspending the conference, especially that Palestine is for Syria what the Sahara is for Morocco? Could we, on the other hand, affirm that all presidents and sovereigns present at the summit conference have approved Prince Fahd's plan?

His Majesty: What do you exactly mean by comparing relations, Palestine-Syria to Sahara-Morocco? What do these two assimilations: Palestine and Sahara on the one hand, Syria and Morocco on the other, mean?

Journalist: I wanted to say that Syria is as attached to Palestine as Morocco is to the Sahara.

His Majesty: What periodical do you represent?

Journalists: AL-KHALIJ (THE GULF), from the United Arab Emirates.

Answer: It is certainly one of those papers implanted in the Gulf. But I shall answer your question.

There are two problems to consider. There is Lebanon, then there is Prince Fahd's plan which, for our part, we prefer to designate more exactly. We have here a plan of Saudi Arabia. Prince Fahd, certainly deputy premier and crown prince, is essentially under the high authority of His Majesty King Khalid. It would not have been permissible, without his sovereign's endorsement, for His Highness Prince Fahd to propose any plan not having received explicit approval of the king and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

We have noted a number of facts. The Saudi plan, like the Lebanese question, was proposed for inclusion in the conference's agenda. Moreover, we learned that Presidents al-Qadhdhafi and Hafiz al-Asad will not be present.

On the other hand, the Algerian president had special reasons for not attending: We were informed of these reasons and did not judge his absence as an issue to worry about but as to the defection of Syria and Libya, members of the "Steadfastness Front" this defection makes us wonder. Moreover, at a moment when the Lebanese question is being posed, how could we find a solution for it in the absence of the highest authority capable of engaging Syria? Let us recall that during the summit conference held last year in Amman, we convened that, from now on, only leaders with constitutional power to conclude peace or declare war could attend 'summits.' It was truly difficult to unite all these conditions at the Fes 'summit', in other words to come up with and assert, with the necessary credibility, obligations that neither time nor place could change.

We remarked a significant difference in degrees between the nature and dimension of resolutions we should have adopted, and those (degrees) of the representation of the states called to adopt such important resolutions, especially when we are talking of states which are principally and in the last analysis, the most concerned by the problem in question.

We perceived that the plan has not sufficiently ripened in the minds of the participants in the summit. And we had the feeling that, consequently, our works risked being concluded not only in divergences, but in division of Arabs into two clans as well. We concluded that it was better to resolve the dilemma otherwise. We therefore proposed to our brothers the sovereigns and presidents a suspension of the conference, not postponing or cancelling it.

The Koran evokes the suspensive delay granted in the past by God to Moses and his brother Aaron before sending messengers to the cities. In this regard, we grant the terminology all its importance. It is a question of suspension, not stopping nor postponement. Given the absence of their excellencies the presidents, it was necessary and logical to act with prudence.

This is why we adopted the decision of suspension. May God choose that it (suspension) bring us forth beneficial results.

Question: The commission in charge of revising the Arab states League Charter chaired by Morocco has been meeting for eighteen months in order to set up a new charter for the organization.

Don't you think, Majesty, that the absence of this question from the agenda of the summit will hinder the eminent role the League is to play?

Second Question: While avoiding propaganda, Tunisia is stepping up efforts in view of bringing closer the Moroccan and Algerian points of view. These efforts are dictated to Tunisia by its geographical position and its privileged relations with these two brotherly countries.

Do you think, Majesty, that Tunisia is properly playing its role, or on the contrary, the efforts it is stepping up are not sufficient?

Answer: First of all, Morocco has not been entrusted with the sponsorship of the work related to the amendment of the Arab states League Charter. Anyway, we do not want to go into details.

What we can affirm is that if the reform of this charter essentially depended on Morocco, it would have been already done and over and unanimously adopted by the members of the organization. Certain states have ideas about this issue, and this issue was inscribed in the agenda of the works of this conference. We will seize the opportunity of this suspension in order to try to bring closer the various points of view.

As for your second question, Tunisia, thanks to God, has undertaken up to now all it could.

All our hopes go to Tunisia which is a part of the great Maghreb and which is also a Mediterranean and an African country. We know, thanks to God, that Tunisia can do more.

His majesty [as received]: I have read, I have had a look at the international press... the Arab press has, to my belief, perfectly grasped the problem of the summit and its suspension. The international has not or, at least, not properly. So I wish our friends the Arab journalist would give the floor to those who have not understood or who want to understand.

Question (Tunisian daily BILADI): The other points of the agenda of the 12th Arab summit are then postponed to a later date. The plan proposed on behalf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia figures on this agenda. If we go back to history, we realize that Arabs had rejected the peace propositions that were formulated by President Habib Bourguiba in 1965.

Do you think, Majesty, that the hostility towards Saudi Arabia's propositions will last long?

Answer: No, we do not think so. I personally think that the initiative President Bourguiba took in 1965, despite the hostilities it triggered, and despite the verbal violences it raised, had showed, thanks to his courage and frankness, that Arabs were able to take realistic and positive initiatives, and that from now on, one could expect from them other things than negative attitudes.

Of course things evolved since 1965. First, there was the reverse of 1967 with its consequences: We had indeed after the confrontation of that year lost Al-Quds, the West Bank, and Sinai. But afterwards, there was the October war.

However, if the latter had not ended in a total victory of Arabs, it nonetheless allowed to save their honour, since October 1973, Arab troops and the Arab combatant recovered their dignity.

Therefore, we cannot compare the echoes presently raised by the Saudi plan to the echoes that followed the declarations and propositions made by President Bourguiba in 1965.

In any case, what is important in this respect is that we have, here in Morocco and ourselves personally in particular, the greatest admiration and deepest consideration for President Habib Bourguiba. Personally we consider him as one of the prestigious masters that the Maghrebian nationalism has and also as an undisputable master for the sons of our great Maghreb. We cannot deny the courage he showed at the time. Despite all this, and as usual, he remained constant himself and faithful to his thought.

Question (the Kuwait daily AR RAY AL-'AMM'): Majesty, observers did not fail to underline the importance of your meeting two days ago with the Algerian minister of foreign affairs. Is it a clue to a Moroccan-Algerian dialogue for a resumption of relations? Are there recent initiatives aimed at quickly liquidating the Moroccan Saharan problem?

Answer: I can say more than tell you we are very optimistic as to the Moroccan-Algerian relations.

Question (Mr Mohamed Baalabaky of L'ECHO DU LIBAN): Majesty, what would, in your opinion, be the repercussions at the international level of this suspension, especially on the Palestinian question and the position of European countries towards this issue, in particular: Were not the European countries expecting the adoption of a common position during this highest inter-Arab meeting?

Answer: Except for the point related to Lebanon, one cannot say, in relation to the summit agenda, there were diverging positions for the simple reason no one took positions on any of the above-mentioned points. So nobody knew if he was going to converge or diverge with anybody. This is where one should seek the secret of the decision to suspend.

On the Palestinian question, we have told Mr 'Arafat: "Having so patiently and courageously waited and so heroically struggled for forty years, the Palestinians could wait some more months."

In fact, all this is decided during our 'summits' has positive or negative repercussions on the condition of the Palestinian people.

If the way this people has to go through proved so long, we hope to see in the few coming months an idea and a policy of Arab states come real. We have to find for the heroic Palestinian people, who suffered so much from the gloom, the way to the light at last.

Question: Your Majesty, in the light of the present tendency, in matters concerning the Middle East to seek the peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem and in the light of changes having taken or actually taking place in Egypt, do you believe that the persistence of Egypt in its engagement in the Camp David framework is likely to hinder efforts undertaken to find a solution to the Middle East crisis?

Answer: It is certain that we cannot possibly imagine the Arab world, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference without the presence of a country and a people like Egypt.

We are impatiently waiting for the day Egypt will find anew its natural place within its family, its place within Arab leaders, for it is question of a great country which has abundantly contributed to Arab science, culture and civilization. But when and how would this return take place? For the moment and we insist on repeating it, we are not speaking for ourselves. Tradition wants that, at the end of inter-Arab and international conference, the hosting head of state hold a press conference.

So at present, we speak, or try to speak on behalf of all.

If, however, we desire to enquire about our personal viewpoint on this, we shall arrange for a [as received] with you later, in order that you be able to know your feeling on the question of Egypt.

Question (the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY): Your majesty has just pointed out that the absence from the 'summit' of a certain number of Arab presidents was at the origin of the suspension of this conference. Which efforts do you plan to step up, being the chairman of the 12th summit, in view of ensuring the presence of these presidents when resuming the works? Will the summit be held in spite of their absence?

Answer: Arabs used to say: "The acts of sensible men are free from absurdity."

I believe that all the heads of state, present or absent, will draw the right conclusions from the suspension of the 'summit.' So, the next meeting will only take place if we are certain that all the heads of state, or at least their representatives invested of the same powers of decision, will be present.

You will note that this problem was not posed for Iraq at the Fes summit and this we underlined during the in camera meeting. The Iraqi vice president was present in the meeting and he judicially commits his country because of the dispositions of the Iraqi Constitution in this respect. Our jurists say: "His naib (representative) is just like himself." Mr Izzat Ibrahim is this naib to the president and has all the competence to commit Iraq, at the executive and governmental levels, in the absence of the president.

Unfortunately, this was not the case for the other absent presidents and whose representatives did not have the same liberty of action.

Such representative of such a president does not constitutionally have the same powers as his president. During the prolonged 'summit', we wish to have, if a president could not come, a representative with the competence to take all the initiatives and commit his country in conformity with the national constitution.

Question (Mr Bachir from SABAH magazine): It is an honour to come to Morocco. I think it is a blessing and a divine grace to visit Morocco because, if those who are impressed by the beauty of other countries could have the opportunity to visit Morocco, they would no longer say, as it was said about Lebanon "but it is a piece of heaven," they would see in its heaven itself.

The good Moroccan people constitutes the stars of this heaven and you, Majesty, are its white and bright light. Majesty: The postponement sine die or the second phase of the conference, would it be an indirect (?support) to the Camp David agreements?

Answer: We thank you, on behalf of Morocco, for this touching love declaration.

That the conference be held or not, the Camp David agreements are normally following their course. Even if the conference had, at the end of its works, condemned the Camp David accords, as it was done before. It seems to us that these accords would not have suffered from our condemnation and would go on functioning. We personally think that, in any case, we cannot change what is, and suppress the real.

Nonetheless, the only possibility we see so the Camp David accords do not succeed, would be that Israel question these agreements.

We have doubts about such a possibility, but virtually it must be taken into consideration.

Question: Will it be possible to say, Your Majesty, after the holding of the second phase of the 'summit' that the Arab solidarity has resumed its normal state? Are you personally optimistic as to the meeting of this 'summit' in the three coming months?

Answer: For us, the fact that the decision was adopted without any reserve, that it was adopted by the Arabs, for no Arab country refused to carry on the 'summit' in a second phase, constitutes a strong guarantee as to the effective resumption of the 'summit.' This very consensus shows the awareness of the 'summit' of the fact that resolutions could not derive from affective impious or tyrannical pressures. We have reached a really responsible level of consciousness implying that the resolutions to be adopted should derive from faith and conviction, a faith and a conviction corollary to commit and continuity.

If there is a lesson to be drawn from our conference whose debates were marked by sincerity of the most vivid kind, which goes hand in hand with mutual respect and esteem, the Arabs have reached in 1981, a time when they are the crossroad, a number of evaluations by those of admitted facts, neighbourhood, the political climate and the potentialities and improbabilities of their praxis. This is the main reason which gives us the certainty that the second phase of the summit will be held under the sign of increased responsibility and will better take into account the priorities and circumstances.

Question: Your Majesty, before passing judgements on Prince Fahd's plan, certain Arab countries and the PLO seem to be waiting for a U.S. stance (on the plan). Do you think you could obtain a clear stance in favour of Prince Fahd's plan from the American administration during your coming visit to the United States?

Answer: Before heading for the United States, I shall receive Secretary of State General Haig in December. I would therefore have the opportunity to talk to him about these problems. I intend to go to the United States and talk about these problems with President Reagan.

It is certain that for the United States, it is primordial that the Camp David accords be a success, because the United States, Egypt and Israel want that it be a "pax-Americana."

The "pax-Americana", even parcelled, (?will) therefore succeed. If I were the United States, I should do all I can for it to succeed. And for it to succeed, if I were again the United States, any parallel or concomitant initiative could bother me.

So, likely to bother me, parallel initiatives, if I could not wave them off, I would pretend not to have heard them until the right moment.

This is what I would do if I were the president of the United States -- so I think you could draw the conclusions of this transposition onto another continent.

I thank you ladies and gentlemen for your attention. I repeat once again to the international European press that it should not be alarmist over Arab unity.

A unity is not always achieved around a consensus. But sometimes it is achieved more solidly when one realizes that one could not be in agreement, yet continue to co-exist.

And the search for this agreement and this consensus for three months would oblige each Arab head of state, if he is responsible and conscientious,... it would oblige him to think deeply of the problems, to seek the true arguments, to lay aside quibbling and demagogy, and to try upon resumption of the summit to give of his country an image worthy of the Arab truth and historical reality.

BENIN

PRESIDENT KEREKOU 29 NOV ADDRESS TO NATION

AB011536 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Address to nation by President Mathieu Kerekou on National Day in Cotonou on 29 November -- recorded]

[Excerpt] Despite the immense, complex problems to which all people of the world are exposed daily, particularly the people of the Third World, in the political, economic and socio-cultural spheres, the international situation offers better prospects for the forces which love justice, freedom, dignity, peace and social progress. In fact, we note with satisfaction that recent events on the African continent are basically marked by victories won by the people struggling for freedom from the yoke of neocolonialism, racism and apartheid. In this way, South Africa, the last stronghold of imperialism, represented by the racist reactionary and minority Pretoria regime, has been brought to bay by the valiant combatants of Namibia and South Africa. We, therefore, believe strongly that the heroic people of Namibia, under the leadership of its vanguard the SWAPO, will win victory despite the treacherous and delaying tactics of imperialism, aimed at nullifying the settlement plan considered final and adopted by the United Nations, and thereby setting up in that country a puppet neocolonial regime in the pay of racist Pretoria.

In Western Sahara, the valiant Western Saharan people struggling for their national freedom have forced some imperialist powers to publicly unveil their hideous masks. That is why we have high hopes that on the basis of the implementation of the relevant provisions clearly defined by the OAU at its last summit in Nairobi, aimed at settling this decolonization problem once and for all, the invincible Saharan people will triumph in their just struggle for national freedom in order to exercise their right to self-determination and national sovereignty.

In the Middle East, the martyred people of Palestine, who are fighting heroically to recover their unity and national sovereignty, continue by their inflexible resistance to sow confusion in the camp of imperialist powers and their conservative allies of feudal, colonial and neocolonial old men. That is also why we remain confident in the inevitable victory of the Palestinian people in their just armed struggle to recover their legitimate right to exist and their inalienable right to create their own fatherland.

Finally, in Chad, there is no doubt that despite the civil war brought about and fanned by international imperialism, the valiant Chadian people will succeed in surmounting victoriously all the difficulties currently confronting them to gain their national unity with the direct support of our continental organization -- the OAU -- as well as with the support of all other international organizations and of all countries that love justice, freedom, dignity, peace and social progress.

In short, on all the continents, international imperialism, weakened by the popular struggle for national liberation of the oppressed and exploited people of the Third World, has decided to intensify its reactionary violence and the mass crime which arrogantly violates the people's conscience and on occasion at the same time violates human rights by not respecting the Charter of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement and the OAU and their relevant resolutions.

Fellow militants of the Beninese revolution, from the analysis of the national and international situation, we can say that imperialism will never give up its idea of domination, oppression and exploitation of the countries and peoples of the Third World.

That is why it is reinforcing and reactivating its military bases on all continents by undertaking sham military maneuvers of destabilization and colonial reconquest in Africa and thus seriously compromising peace and collective security. But nothing in the world can stop the irresistible march forward of people struggling for their freedom and prevent their final victory over imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid.

GHANA

ALL-PEOPLE'S PARTY GETS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

AB260958 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] The All-People's Party [APP] has been given a provisional certificate of registration by the electoral commission. The certificate was signed by the electoral commissioner, Mr Justice Kingsley Nyinah, on the 23rd of this month. The granting of the provisional certificate means that the APP can now operate as a political party.

SOVIET WARSHIP PAYS FRIENDLY 7-DAY VISIT

AB011628 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] A Soviet warship, (?Grozyashchy), has arrived in Tema on a friendly visit to Ghana. During its stay, the commander of the warship will meet some officers of the Ghana Navy and the commander of Tema naval base. The warship, which will be in the country for 7 days, will be open to the public on Friday.

GUINEA-BISSAU

PRESIDENT VIEIRA LEAVES FOR SOVIET VISIT

AB280750 Paris AFP in English 0718 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Text] Bissau, 28 Nov (AFP) -- Guinea-Bissau head of state Gen Joao Bernardo Vieira left here Friday for a week-long visit to the Soviet Union. He told reporters he would be having talks on revising the aid and friendship treaty signed between the two countries after independence in 1974, and concluding an agreement on the use of water resources. It would also be an opportunity to reaffirm solidarity with the friendly Soviet people, he said.

Accompanying Gen Vieira are Natural Resources Minister Samba Lamine Mane, Economic Coordination and Planning Minister Vasco Cabral and Trade, Fisheries and Crafts Minister Joseph Turpin.

NIGERIA

NAN REPORTS ON EKWUEME ACTIVITIES IN GUINEA

AB261050 Lagos NAN in English 2032 GMT 26 Nov 81

[By James Bello]

[Text] Conakry, 26 Nov (NAN) -- Nigeria will not relent in its efforts to see to the successful liberation of the African continent, politically and economically, the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, has said.

Dr Ekwueme, who was speaking on Sunday in Conakry during a ceremony to mark the 11th anniversary of the Guinean defeat of the Portuguese invaders, said that the people of Guinea had in Nigeria, a true comrade-in-arms for the liberation of the African continent.

Both countries, he reiterated, would continue to work together until the last vestiges of imperialist forces were eliminated from the continent.

Also addressing the crowd, President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea, warned that those who were out to betray the cause of the revolution would not be forgiven, and called on the people to watch out for enemies of the country.

Guinea was invaded in the early hours of November 22, 1970 by Portuguese forces, but they were repelled by the Guinean forces.

Earlier during the five-day visit, Dr Ekwueme and his wife, Beatrice, were conferred with Guinean national honors by President Toure. They were both made grand officers of the People's Republic of Guinea. The senate leader, Dr Olusola Saraki, and a minister of state for external affairs, Chief Patrick Bolokor, were also conferred with Guinean national honors. President Toure said that the honor was in appreciation of their roles in developing good relations between Nigeria and Guinea.

The vice president also met members of the Nigerian community in Guinea during the visit. He advised them to live in peace with their hosts, adding: "The success of Nigeria's economic cooperation with Guinea will only be enhanced if there is peaceful coexistence between them."

Dr Ekwueme has since returned to Lagos.

Communique Signed

AB251146 Lagos NAN in English 1120 GMT 25 Nov 81

[By James Bello]

[Text] Conakry, 25 Nov (NAN) -- Nigeria and Guinea yesterday called on all African countries to increase their moral and financial support for liberation movements in southern Africa.

In a joint communique issued at the end of a five-day visit to Guinea by the vice-president, Dr. Alex Ekwueme, the two countries remarked that no black man can lift up his head with pride and dignity if any inch of the African soil is still under colonial repression. They pledged their support for the independence struggle of the Namibian people and urged the United Nations to intensify its efforts to eliminate apartheid in South Africa.

The two countries emphasised the need for the eventual economic integration of the African continent through the realisation of the objectives of the 1980 Lagos plan of action, and called for a rapid establishment of communication links between all African countries, especially in the west African sub-region.

On the situation in Chad, the two countries expressed satisfaction with the despatch of an African peace keeping force to that country and hoped that this would enable Chad to recover from years of internal strife.

On the North-South dialogue, both countries expressed dissatisfaction with the imbalance between the industrialised North and the raw material rich South, but regarded the recent Cancun summit as a right step in the right direction.

The communique was signed on behalf of Nigeria by Vice-President Ekwueme, while President Ahmed Sekou Toure signed for Guinea.

The vice-president and his entourage returned to Lagos last night.

SHAGARI REQUESTS PARTICIPATION BY ALL PARTIES

AB270850 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has renewed his invitation to all political parties to participate in his government. He made the call in Port Harcourt last night while addressing the fourth national convention of the National Party of Nigeria [NPN]. The president emphasized that his call was directed to all patriots who believe in selfless service and who place the survival of the nation above personal ambitions. He is expected back in Lagos later today after a 5-day official visit to the Rivers State.

Also yesterday, President Shagari toured the Yenagoa and Brass local government areas. In his speeches to the people, he reiterated his administration's commitments to the even development of the country. The president later returned to Port Harcourt and addressed the fourth national convention of the NPN. He spoke on four major issues affecting the nation. These include the strike action by the university teachers, the creation of more states, the electoral bill and partisan politics.

SIERRA LEONE

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH PRC -- Sierra Leone and the People's Republic of China have signed an agreement for the provision of Chinese medical experts and the supply of essential drugs and equipment to the Ministry of Health. During the signing ceremony, the Sierra Leone minister of health expressed the government's gratitude to the Government of the People's Republic of China for its assistance to the health services of Sierra Leone. [Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Nov 81 AB]

ANGOLA

UNITA SPOKESMAN PREDICTS SWAPO ELECTION VICTORY

LD202154 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 20 Nov 81

["Excerpt" of a 20 November Lisbon news conference held by an unidentified spokesman for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Why are you holding this news conference here and now?

[Answer] As I said at the beginning, this news conference is being held here because, first of all, Portugal is perhaps the country that is -- and should be -- most interested in our problems. Second, we take the view that the Angolan problem is, sooner or later, bound to be resolved and that, therefore, it would be a good time for Portugal, for reasons I have already mentioned, to be ready to face such an occurrence. Third, there are a certain number of problems concerning UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and Portugal that must be resolved and that we are interested in resolving.

[Question] UNITA frequently has been accused of collusion with South Africa in an attempt to create a buffer zone in southern Angola in order to isolate SWAPO fighters who are said to operate from Angolan territory.

[Answer] I will give you an answer that perhaps will surprise you: We have no illusions whatsoever -- and it is quite well known in UNITA -- that there will have to be elections in Namibia and that the winner in the Namibian elections will be SWAPO. We have absolutely no illusions about what I have just said. Now, with regard to South Africa and your specific question, I say this: First, we don't believe in such a buffer state. UNITA is a movement that has within its ranks members and leaders from all areas of Angola. To what extent, therefore, could a UNITA member from Fabinda, from Luanda, from Malange or other areas of Angola accept a buffer state as a viable future for UNITA or Angola?

[Question] Not as a future solution but as a first step perhaps?

[Answer] Neither as a possible first nor as a future step. No, that could be the wish of some country or of some sectors of some countries, but that doesn't include, in any way, UNITA itself. Second, it is said, namely by those who represent the so-called MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] that UNITA is a force that in the finaly analysis is nothing but an appendix of South Africa. South Africa is a well known military power. It doesn't need UNITA to reach any African capital as far as the northern Sahara and it isn't necessary for UNITA to scout ahead for South Africa to do that. Contrary to what many people may think, South Africa knows Angolan territory well and even operated in our territory in the colonial days against the liberation movements. It is not necessary, therefore, for South Africa to invite what has been called a rebel movement to carry out operations against whomever it sees fit.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL, PORTUGAL'S EANES BEGIN OFFICIAL TALKS

EA252200 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1100 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Official talks between the People's Republic of Mozambique [PRM] and the Portuguese Republic began this morning. The delegations are led by Presidents Samora Machel and Ramalho Eanes.

The Mozambique delegation includes Joaquim Chissano, foreign minister; Jose Oscar Monteiro, minister of state for the presidency; Rui Baltasar, minister of finance; Salomao Manguambe, minister of foreign trade; Fernando Canhao, rector of Eduardo Mondlane University; Joaquim Munhepe, deputy political commissar of the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM; Prakash Ratilal, deputy minister, deputy governor of the Bank of Mozambique; Fernando Vaz, deputy health minister; Joao Ataide, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in the Portuguese Republic; and other senior officials of the Mozambique Government.

The Portuguese delegation includes Goncalves Pereira, foreign minister; Vitor Alves of the Council of the Revolution; Luis [name indistinct] de Carvalho, secretary of state for planning; Antonio Gomes de Pinho, secretary of state for culture; Jose da Silva Domingues, secretary of state for merchant marine; Jose Cutileiro, Portuguese ambassador in the PRM; and other senior officials of the Portuguese Government.

During the opening session of the official talks, President Samora Machel made this address:

[Begin recording] With your permission, Mr President, and that of your high-ranking delegation, I should like to say welcome to the PRM.

The PRM is a liberated zone of humanity, a land liberated by the Mozambique people, in which today we are constructing a society free of exploitation of man by man. In this land, we are struggling against humiliation, racism and all forms of oppression. We are struggling for man's dignity.

We have, Mr President, freely chosen the socialist path. Your visit, Mr President, has particular significance. We consider your visit an historic landmark in our relations, which express the common wish of our people to strengthen, deepen and consolidate friendly relations, solidarity and genuine cooperation for our mutual benefit.

Certainly, your visit, Mr President, will enable you to get to know our Mozambique reality, the true meaning of what stands for the PRM. It will enable you to understand that between the Mozambique and Portuguese people there has always been friendship. There was never hatred between our peoples. To this delegation, friendship and solidarity has more importance than during the struggle for national liberation. We ourselves never confused, Mr President, the colonial system with the Portuguese people. During our struggle, the enemy was the colonial system and fascism, the same system which oppressed and killed Portuguese people. It was the same system which forced the sons of Portugal to wage their just struggle. The Front for the Liberation of Mozambique always defined [words indistinct] Portuguese colonialism and not the Portuguese people. [Words indistinct] and disturbances in all the Mozambique Liberation Front we did not confuse the enemy and it was an opportune time to correctly define the enemy even if he changed his clothes.

When some of us thought, some of us wanted to transport our war into a racist war, the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique was once again able to define correctly and in a clear manner the right enemy and the enemy to be shot. It was then that we declared that colonialism has no color or race. Exploitation has no color, race or fatherland.

Your presence here, Mr President, in the PRM corresponds with what was always the hope of our people-- to strengthen the existing relations of friendship and solidarity.

Your visit constitutes a further step in the development of these relations which will allow us to improve existing cooperation between the PRM and Portugal and to analyze ways and means of making this cooperation much better. Mr President, you will have the opportunity to know better our achievements, the tasks in which we are engaged in national reconstruction and the building of a socialist society, particularly in this decade which has just started, the decade defined by our party as the decade of victory over underdevelopment. This victory will depend essentially and above all on the (?interaction of Mozambicans with friendly countries, which constitute a very important element). Mr President, this can be realized and it will bring about a profound political and economic transformation in southern Africa. [Words indistinct] to it we have here in Maputo the frontline of the struggle between freedom and oppression. You are also aware of the apartheid system, an inhuman system. Mr President, we understand your interest and intentions in trying to understand these transformations.

Mr President Ramalho Eanes, we would like to convey our highest respect to you and your high-ranking delegation. Warmest greetings from the Mozambique people. I present to you, Mr President, as well as your delegation, our good wishes of welcome. Please feel at home in our capital and in the PRM as a whole.

Replying, Ramalho Eanes, president of the Portuguese Republic said:

[Begin recording] Mr President, on behalf of the Portuguese delegation which is accompanying me and on my own behalf, I simply would like to thank you for the warm and friendly welcome accorded us. As you well known, my delegation and I are representatives of a new Portugal, a Portugal that was born on 25 April and which is trying to develop relations with peoples of the world in the external field and especially to have good relations with the people of Mozambique.

Various efforts made by your country in recent years have led to a new era of relations between our peoples. During this era, we have particularly stood for intransigent respect for the sovereignty of our countries. It is an era of rapprochement in which political and cultural dialogue and economic dialogue are not only possible but also necessary [words indistinct] and indispensable for the defense of the convergent interests of our peoples.
It is important that these dialogues take place between our sovereign peoples and it will be a difficult but worthwhile dialogue, difficult because only in this way will the different interests of two sovereign peoples become (?easy) because these two sovereign peoples will understand that it is necessary to look much more (?earnestly) at the convergent interests.

To begin with, I understand the difficulties of Mozambique, but after the talks between the delegations it is hoped that the strengthening of relations and the (?expected) mobilization of more cooperation will contribute to the development and betterment of the two peoples, to justice and peace in our respective areas and, at the same time, to peace and mutual interests.

I would like to tell you, Mr President, that Portugal, in fact, wants to see the PRM as a stable state internally and enjoying prestige in the external field. Portugal is interested, Mr President, in seeing to your fundamental interests. In this respect, as I have mentioned, the PRM in general and, in particular, President Samora Machel, can count on Portugal. In this respect, Portugal will also need a prospective relationship which respects sovereignties equally, finds appropriate solutions to mutual problems and, in time of trouble, enables us to count on your excellency and the people your excellency rules.

I would like to add a final word with regard to what you said yesterday and the special way in which you put it, referring to day-to-day life of the people, which was touching and very natural. Thank you. [end recording]

Eanes Visits Beira

LD282110 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1430 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Text] Maputo, [dateline indistinct] -- President Ramalho Eanes of Portugal, who is on an official visit to Mozambique, condemned in Beira last Friday the subversive actions carried out against Mozambique by reactionary groups backed by the South African racist regime.

[Words indistinct] cannot fail to condemn the acts of violence perpetrated by those seeking to prevent the normal functioning, in this and other areas, of undertakings which are vital not only for the normal development of Mozambique but also [words indistinct] progress and normal living conditions in countries [words indistinct] Ramalho Eanes stressed.

According to MOZAMBIQUE NEWS AGENCY, AIM, this is clear condemnation of the activities of the self-styled National Resistance Movement (MNR) with South African support, against rail and road links in central Mozambique, which jeopardizes not only the Mozambique economy but also the economies of neighboring countries which use the port of Beira as a natural route for their imports and exports of consumer and capital goods.

'Incident' Mars Dinner

LD292135 Lisbon in Portuguese to Europe 1900 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Excerpts] The final hours of President Eanes' visit to Mozambique were marred by an incident between Samora Machel and Portuguese Foreign Minister Goncalves Pereira. According to a news agency report, Samora Machel, speaking at the banquet given in his honor on Saturday evening by General Eanes, after repeatedly praising his counterpart as the topmost representative of all Portuguese, turned toward Goncalves Pereira and asked him whether he is fully aware of what it means to be the topmost leader of a people. The reports say that the Portuguese foreign minister remained unperturbed even after Samora Machel urged him never to forget that Eanes is the head for as long as he remains president.

Goncalves Pereira last night summoned the five secretaries of state who, with himself, make up the government's representation in President Eanes' delegation and, after a telephone call to Prime Minister Pinto Balsemao in Lisbon, the six made it known that they intended to leave Maputo immediately for home.

However, the incident was cleared up when the Mozambique president met early this morning with the six members of the Portuguese Government and formally apologized for the previous evening.

Later, on seeing the Portuguese delegation off at the airport, Samora Machel had an exceptionally warm embrace for the Portuguese foreign minister, a rather ostentatious gesture viewed as a public demonstration that the Mozambique president regards the incident over his impromptu speech, delivered after the banquet, as cleared up.

Eanes Cites Trip Results

EA300050 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Text] Portuguese President Ramalho Eanes said shortly before leaving Mozambique that the most obvious result of his visit was the clarification of relations between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of each state. He also said his visit had helped the two countries to establish a framework of mutually advantageous cooperation between Mozambique and Portugal on the basis of justice, equality, noninterference and full respect.

Gen Ramalho Eanes added that the talks held in Maputo ensured the establishment of procedures for bilateral contacts which will contribute to the development of our relations.

The Portuguese head of state invited President Samora Machel to visit Portugal. The invitation was accepted.

Samora Machel also invited Portuguese Prime Minister Pinto Balsemao to visit Mozambique.

MOZAMBIQUE, ZIMBABWEAN MILITARY DELEGATIONS MEET

EA251352 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Mozambique and Zimbabwean military delegations held a meeting in Chimoio, Manica Province, last Friday, to study and coordinate actions connected with the defense of the border area between the two countries. A spokesman at the meeting, who was cited by DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE, considered the meeting fruitful for both sides.

The Mozambique delegation was led by Deputy National Defense Minister Lt Gen Sebastiao Mabote and the Zimbabwean delegation was led by Brig (Gawa).

SOUTH AFRICA

AIR INDIA HIJACKERS TO APPEAR IN PRETORIA COURT

LD020700 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Summary] Five of the alleged hijackers held in prison near Pretoria for the past week in connection with the seizure of an Air India Boeing 707 in the Seychelles are to appear in the Pretoria magistrate's court this morning.

This has been announced by Commissioner of Police General Geldenhuys who also disclosed that some of the remaining 39 men had been released.

BOTHA NOTES REQUESTS FROM SEYCHELLES DISSIDENTS

LD281639 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Excerpts] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, has reacted to allegations by certain black states at the United Nations that South Africa was responsible for the mercenary attack on the Seychelles. Mr Botha was approached for comment in Bloemfontein where he held talks with the foreign minister of Lesotho, Mr Molapo, on matters of bilateral concern.

Mr Botha said it was no secret that there were at least two dissident groups from the Seychelles wishing to depost the present government of that country. The South African Department of Foreign Affairs had been approached several times by people purporting to represent dissident groups and asking for assistance for their plans. Mr Botha said that the groups asking for help claimed to have considerable support for their cause in Africa and elsewhere. On each and every occasion these people had been told that it was the policy of the South African Government not to concern itself with adventures of this nature. He said the most simple and most convincing test of whether a country wished to engage in subversion and destabilization was its declared willingness to enter into nonaggression agreements with neighboring states, and whether it harbored subversive elements actively engaged against the governments of neighboring states.

JOHANNESBURG CITES 'SECRET' SWAPO PAPERS

LD281044 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Text] Secret military documents captured by the South-West Africa territory force have confirmed that SWAPO's principal target is the local population, and not the security forces. The documents, seized from a SWAPO headquarters during "Operation Protea" in southern Angola, have been published in Windhoek. One contains details of missions that terrorist groups are expected to carry out, and it also reveals that 80 percent of attacks by SWAPO are directed against civilians who refuse to cooperate with the organization. The documents also indicate that contact with the security forces is generally avoided by SWAPO and that the morale of terrorists is low.